

Robert Hand on Sect: Day vs. Night Charts

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CHRIS BRENNAN: Hi. My name is Chris Brennan and you are listening to the astrology podcast. For more information about subscribing to the show, please visit the astrologypodcast.com/subscribe. Subscribers who donate a dollar and more an episode through patreon get access to some exclusive benefits such as private discussion forums, early access to new episodes and more. Today is Saturday, July 18th 2015 at approximately 05:01 pm in Denver, Colorado and this is the 37th episode of the show.

In this episode I am gonna be talking with Robert Hand about the interpretive distinction between day and night charts which is commonly known as the concept of sect. Rob is the author of a book on sect and he is presenting a day long webinar on the subject on July 26th. For more information about the webinar, please visit his website at arhatmedia.com.

Rob, wellcome back to the show.

ROBERT HAND: Hello. Good to be here.

CHRIS BRENNAN: All right so I am excited to talk to you about this, because you are basically the author of the first and as far as I know the only book on the topic of sect. Right?

ROBERT HAND: Right and it needs to be rewritten somewhat, but it is all there is for the moment.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure so this is one of the early, I think, big discoveries that you made during the course of the early phases of Project Hindsight in the mid 1990s and that book or that monograph you wrote on the sect, I think it was published in 1995. Right?

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. It was originally published as a Project Hindsight monograph and then when Project Hindsight myself parted company, I kept that and I republished it at Arhat Media. Although mostly at the moment we published it as in electronic book format.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay and one of the things I noticed about the webinar that is kind of a great concept there is exciting, is that people when signed up for, one of the benefits of attending the webinar is they get a free copy of the e-book on sect when they sign up. Right?

ROBERT HAND: That is correct.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay, awesome. Well, let's jump right into it then. Let' start by defining our subjects so what is sect?

ROBERT HAND: Well. Fundamentally sect is a classification of the various elements of, several elements of astrology into nocturnal and diurnal. The nocturnal... also I would be with the diurnal more consistent . The diurnal

planets, signs etc operate more happily and more agreeably in a chart where the Sun is above the horizon and the nocturnal planets and signs operate better when the Sun is below the horizon and there is several other factors that are involved in [this is as well](#) but the most important whether the person is born by day or night and this may seem a little simple minded of me but I always define day and night because a lot of people tend to confuse, It would am and pm.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right.

ROBERT HAND: Day means the Sun is above the horizon, night means it is below the horizon and I don't care how... Oh! And twilight has an ambiguous case to be sure but that has not [with](#) am and pm. Just day and night.

CHRIS BRENNAN: So fundamentally there is a distinction between day charts and night charts so that is pretty straight forward and simple astronomical distinction that everybody experiences on a regular bases and it is almost a kind of surprising that this is a concept that we lost or they had to be recovered this distinction between day and night charts.

ROBERT HAND: Yes, it is. I have to say that one reason for I believe is that was never really alluded to. as clearly as it could have been. One of my text has been trying to put in more comprehensive, useful terms exactly what the effect is and its foundations. Its foundations appear to be related to if not derived from the Pythagorean concept of the ten opposites described by Aristotle in the metaphysics and it is [opened](#) in my slideshow right in front of me so I can, so serving these notes.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: Here we are. Okay. The two columns consist of ten pairs of opposites. One is under the heading of a limit or limited and the other one is the heading of unlimited.

CHRIS BRENNAN: This is the Pythagorean distinction?

ROBERT HAND: Exactly. They can also be called defined and undefined. This is a little peculiar because... Well, you will see in a moment. The limited beside unlimited is associated with right-handedness, masculinity, day, very controversial but I will hand a list in a moment, good and the unlimited side or undefined side is associated with left-handed, female, night and bad. Now I just want to say right out of the beginning that this table of opposites or the concepts behind it seems to have permeated in astrology throughout because item number two in the table is odd and even. Odd is under the definition of limit and even is under the unlimited and the odd numbered signs in astrology are diurnal and masculine and the even numbered signs in astrology are nocturnal and feminine so it is a fairly widespread notion but the central thing we have to be clear about is what do they mean by good and bad? and that is very important issue.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure.

ROBERT HAND: Because it is not your ordinary everyday sense of good and bad. It is a very abstract philosophical one and in that respect I still think the male and female correlation is opened to question, especially when you are take the actual psychology members both sexes into consideration but here again even the male

female is rather abstract and I would argue has little to do with real gender but I will give you some of the other ones. Straight for example is under limit, curved or bend is under unlimited. Okay, but probably one of the most fundamental of all of these pairs is one versus many and also rest versus motion. Those are the two most critical ones. The good is associated with that which tends to our unity and which is not in changed and not changing at all in a state of changes what I meant to say there so God the divine is unchanging, permanent and one. Now that is a very abstract definition of good and bad by contrast the physical universe is diverse and multitudinous instead of one. It is in a constant state of flux coming to be and passing away and let's see what was the other one I had here. Yeah, that those are the principle ones and therefore is bad that was what I was leaving up to. Deborah Houlding is pointed out that it is also quite likely that the distinction of aspects and the good and bad aspects comes from the same source because the aspects that are divided that involve dividing the circle by three or its multiples are considered good and the ones that involve dividing by two and its powers not so much its multiples is considered to be bad because the three series tends for most stability and the two series tends for more change.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: So again whether they are good and bad in any ordinary language sense is that is not debatable because it flat out wrong.

CHRIS BRENNAN: So we are getting to sort of fundamental concepts here when it comes to what is the underlying, sort of philosophical concepts underlying astrology in very simple distinctions like masculine and feminine or what have you as linked to ancient Pythagorean numerology?

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. And the odd-even one is a little peculiar but the reason for this is actually really Pythagorean. If you start taking odd numbers starting with one and you add up a series of odd numbers that are you know contiguous in the series like you don't skip any, like $1 + 3 = 4$. Right?

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right.

ROBERT HAND: $1+3+5 = 9$

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: $1+3+5+7 = 16$ and I can tell you that there are vocab on doing this little will always produce a square numbered sum

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm..

ROBERT HAND: There is only one kind of.., all squares are identical except in size. That puts them in the category of oneness whereas even numbers produce rectangles of various size and this is an infinite number of possible rectangles. For some reason the circle and the ellipse are in here it following the same logic. The perfect circle would be on the limited side and the ellipse should be on the unlimited side.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm.. Okay.

ROBERT HAND: And the circle is of course considered a divine figure and the injunction that Plato visually left behind them was that astronomy had to figure out the motion of the planets in terms of perfect circles which was not revoked until Kepler said 'Well, actually they are conic sections' and which still made them kind of Pythagorean but at least they didn't but he was able to predict much more accurately planetary positions by going through ellipse over the circle.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right. Yeah, that cause some problems for a few hundred years in the history of astronomy with people...

ROBERT HAND: Oh, yeah..

CHRIS BRENNAN: Like Ptolemy coming up with elaborate systems in order to maintain that conceptual model of perfect circles.

ROBERT HAND: In fact Copernicus didn't change that he did the same thing and as a result his system was almost as complicated as Ptolemy's and actually they never did get at the produces accurate positions. It wasn't until Kepler came up with the elliptical orbits that they were actually able to get planetary positions anywhere near accurately. When I say near accurately they always had them within a few minutes unless somebody have made calculation error but Kepler's values typically got the right minute.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right. Yeah, I was thought that was a fascinating sort of chapter in the history of science just that thousand year period where with epicycle theory and I think I was talking with Ben Dykes on the last episode about this. How you can get the right answer and how the correct values for the astronomical positions? but for almost the wrong reasons because you are using a model that involves epicycles and other things that are not necessarily astronomically correct and you are still coming to the correct conclusion through using them.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. It is a matter fact will any mathematical system complex enough you can model almost anything which is one of the reasons why are tendency to confuse mathematical models with reality is really kind of dangerous philosophically speaking. I think physics is currently in the froze of a good deal of this. They were not went back to reference epicycles when it comes to quantum mechanics and you know that sort.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right. How many dimensions are there?

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. Specifically that one, yes.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay. Well we are going a little far fields. Let's back it up and so let's why is it called sect? or what is the term sect trying to convey?

ROBERT HAND: It is actually not by any means the past translation except I can come up with one better. The greek word is '*hairesis*' and I just getting back here I... which means to adhere to something. It is a coordinate with the 'here', 'in that here' or 'in here' or you know that is to say it is 'inherent' even though those are Latin the stem is the same and so people who... If you are in a '*hairesis*' that means you are in a group of people who cord the same ideas.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right. You have made a choice or you have picked one thing over another.

ROBERT HAND: Exactly, yes. And the idea of its being divine or created by the Christian church so what 'hairesis' does as it divides the planets into two categories. I don't know what the plural 'hairesis' is but the... will just say categories for the moment in which there are three and a half planets for a category using only classical seven. The half is because Mercury can go either way depending on the solar phase and some other considerations. Sect is based on the idea of a group of people who have made a choice or have or into the same thing. The actual or that was used was 'conditio' spelled with a 'c' or a 't'. We spelled it with the 't'. Orthodox Latin spelling it with the 'c' the 'condicio' which means condition and its matter fact I used to go not in reading Ashmond's translation of Ptolemy because he kept referring to especially if aspected by planets of the same condition. Well, what condition?

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right.

ROBERT HAND: Well, he wasn't wrong. It is just he never bother to provide a glossary in English.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure.

ROBERT HAND: Now, there are two explanations given for the word sect. One is from the Latin 'seco' which means to cut or divide and the other one is for 'sequor' that one I think is a bit of stretched which means to follow. And in fact the two sects have a leader. The Sun is the leader of the diurnal sect and the Moon is the leader of the nocturnal sect and consequently the diurnal planets prefer to be in diurnal charts and the nocturnal planets prefer to be in nocturnal charts and this is where it becomes a relevant factor for interpreting charts because the three and half planets that are not of the same sect is your chart are a little unhappier than the three and a half planets, you know obviously Mercury would be one or the other, that are of the same sect as the chart that is to say a day or a night chart, a day or a night planet. Its just are potentially for using Latin when you access nocturnal and diurnal, day or night is just fine.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Yeah. Day and night tends to be a little more straight forward for people to conceptualize so we are starting with the distinction between day charts when the Sun is above the horizon versus night charts when the Sun is below the horizon and then saying that the Sun is the leader or divides the planets into two teams, the visible planets and then we have the Sun is the leader of the day time team and the Moon is the leader of the night time team and then each team assigned two or three other planets to it. Correct?

ROBERT HAND: And on top of that it would appear that there. Let me find the graphic here. Yes, here we go. This is the one I discuss with you the other day where I changed my mind in view of your work. The solar sect in order from most diurnal to least diurnal is Sun, Jupiter and Saturn.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay, so those are the three primary planets they are assigned to the day time sect or day time team of planets.

ROBERT HAND: Exactly and the lunar sect from most nocturnal to least nocturnal is Moon, Venus, Mars.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: And the malefics for reasons that, I think I will be presenting in this but you are the source, seem to be the least diurnal and nocturnal of the ones at unambiguously of one sect to the other. Then Mercury there

are two criteria and people disagree on which one I suspect it is probably we should look at both. Mercury rising before the Sun in the morning is diurnal and setting after the Sun at night is nocturnal however Mercury can also be rendered diurnal by applying to a diurnal planet and nocturnal by applying to a nocturnal planet or nocturnal planet applying to it, Moon mainly so...

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right. Mercury is tricky because they always say that just joins the sect of planets that is closely associated with an even one author I think Valens says that Mercury joins the team of the sect of whatever planet is its bound lord or the ruler of its term that it joins that sect.

ROBERT HAND: Yes, that is defensible too. I keep with the solar phase one because it is more unambiguous, because similarly Venus which is unambiguously nocturnal is benevolent when it is setting after the Sun in the evening which is a nocturnal placement and not so benevolent when it is rising before the Sun in the morning and there is a certain amount of sect associated with solar phase as well by the way I should point out but that is not one of the principle criteria but it is definitely there so Venus is easier, Venus is classically venusian when she is an evening star and not so classically venusian when she is a morning star and in fact the Babylonians according to a German historian believe that Venus as a morning star who was the militant goddess Venus and the Venus as an evening star was the love goddess.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm..

ROBERT HAND: The Greeks interpreted as a good and bad Venus. You know it is greeksy a little more. Sexist shall we say ? Sexist, not sectist?

CHRIS BRENNAN: A little more patriarchal may be.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah, quite and even by ancient standard they were pretty or not all of the actually, they different city state it is not widely known had very different attitudes historic females. Some of them they were essentially equal the men. The problem is the two famous ones were notoriously athenian female which was Athens and Sparta

CHRIS BRENNAN: All right so we have got the... and that brings up an interesting point which is we have it is one of the things that initially I think it is kind of startling or off putting the people when they first learn about sect is that you have the Sun which is obviously day time celestial body and the Moon which is night time and then you have Jupiter which makes sense is a day time planet and then you have Venus which makes sense is a night time planet. Then you got to the two malefics and then you run into a bit of problem where Saturn is assigned to the day time planets and Mars is assigned to the night time planets and at least at first glance that seems a little awful or a little contrary that we might just aspect just knowing the basic natures of those planets in astrology.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah, and there have been several explanations given but what I have tried to do more subsequent etude the book. This is some of the newer material is to give a behavioural distinction to a supposed the philosophical one. The a word that is definitely and unambiguously associated with the unlimited sight of the ten pairs of opposites is conditional versus unconditional and I don't mean that in terms of sect. I mean all of the material in the limited column are clearly defined and definite and they are all subject to well defined conditions. The ones on the other side are not subjected well defined conditions. Well we met the male and female thing

again because at night for example you can't see clearly so you don't know what the conditions are. I mean a full Moon is in the out at sometime especially if you live in a polluted neighbourhood at sometimes hard to tell where there are stars or not and you can't see even them. This actually transformed by understanding of Mars. The Saturn I did never problem with because Saturn is clearly about making distinctions. The fact that is practically the ruler of that phenomenon but Mars I mean you think of an unconditional Mars that is horrible, you know that mean you gonna blow up everthing without limit. Why is Mars not a diurnal planet? Well, when we talk about Mars as being of the nocturnal sect not only is Mars of the nocturnal sect but it is more benevolent when it is in a nocturnal chart so what is a benevolent Mars like? It is unconditionally willing to do whatever is necessary to protect and defend what it holds dear.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: It is not egoistic at all. It is altruistic and so one of the things has come out of this is a totally new understanding of Mars as search for personal authenticity which is another aspect of the high Mars and effectively what policemen and soldiers are supposed to be. You know they are not there to recreate [panic](#) but when somebody has taken this planet which is actually interpersonal and societal and orientation and made it their own it becomes malevolent and that is the diurnal Mars.

CHRIS BRENNAN: The idea of altruism brings up the fact that Mars is Hermetic Lot. The Part or the Lot that was associated with Mars is called the Lot of Courage and the idea of courage being associated with Mars sounds that it would be connected with that.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. People who don't have courage can really create violence, may have, they just do it sneaky and they were sneaky when they do it so courage is not a necessary condition for committing acts of aggression whereas the willingness to do whatever is necessary to protect and defend and not having any particular regard for one's own survival is a benevolent quality. Now of course when they obey stupid leaders that is another matter but the leader is than the one who is committing the fault.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure. Well, this brings us into I guess an important area for sect which is what is it used for and how it is used as a sort of qualitative distinction in order to get to a finer level of detailer understanding about where on a sort of qualitative spectrum each of the planets is gonna manifest especially the benefics and malefics in terms of whether it is going to there more or let's say constructive significations are gonna come to the forefront in a person's life or whether the more challenging or sometimes destructive significations might come to the forefront?

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. In the webinar I am going to present the following which is not actually it is implicit in the night and day but I have never made it explicitly. They are basically two principle ways in which sect is important. One is an accidental dignity/debility for the planets that is if a planet is basically in an environment of the same sect that it is, it works better in someway that it is hard to define but I think the simplist way of describing it is, it works the way it is supposed to.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Rather than malfunctioning and in someway that is not supposed to?

ROBERT HAND: Yeah, but it is different from essential dignity, it is an accidental dignity and what we are doing here is evaluating at the rather important accidental dignity where the ancients did too. The Medievals kind of gradually who [powered](#) down until by the 17th century it was largely ignored.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Yeah. That is actually a topic we should circle back around at some point as well which is why it gradually declined in the tradition almost.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. I will definitely do that and I have some ideas in the subject. Okay, so as an accidental dignity/debility system for planets that is one of the deuces. The other one however which oh... I should point out that the accidental dignity/debility is the aspect of a died out in modern times. The other one didn't die out. It is just nobody identified it for it was that is there are several areas of chart analysis where sect affects the way you proceed for example the diurnal and nocturnal Lot of Fortune and Spirit flipping their planets at sunrise and sunset. That is a sect effect.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right, right. You have to change or reverse the calculation for the Lot or the Part of Fortune whether it is a day and night chart.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah, exactly and quite a few other ones as well which I will be talking about. Mainly it also seems to be leading in the direction of why do they flip if they do flip and why they don't when they don't. Although I wouldn't say it is hard and fast but I think we are almost in a position to go through the vast quantity of traditional lots which even in the Greek material are somewhere nearly some 200. In the Arabic material is Al Bruni put it they create a new ones everyday.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Yeah. Throw his hands up in the air and says they multiply daily or something...

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. That was actually in horary astrology in particular so imagine was really bad there but Arabic.... in the terms of conventional Lot, they didn't add many. The main conventional Lots they added were Lots of various commodities like Lot of Beans, Lot of Honey you know Lot of Iron that sort of thing for trade. They were very instrumental in trading these commodities.

CHRIS BRENNAN: I am the big fan of the Lot of Lentils myself.

ROBERT HAND: And let's see. One I am pushing which is a newer idea is the benefic/malefic quality of planets as greatly affected by their sect element. It is not just afflictions by nasty planets and being in bad houses sect can mess up a planet well anything else going on.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure.

ROBERT HAND: This explains a lot of charts I have seen. One of my favorite one is Charles Stewart murder case where he murdered his wife and unborn child and then blamed on some anonymous black man who mugged them in a ragsberry and then because he wanted to marry somebody else.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Wow.

ROBERT HAND: His chart does not look like the chart ever murderer what it looks like is the chart a self indulgence spoiled bread and that is a negative Jupiter quality.

CHRIS BRENNAN: And then sect was sort of the missing piece of that for you in order to identify that is the negative Jupiter quality.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah and I have subsequently found quite a few others that was a phenomenon too. I have nocturnal Jupiter. Yes, It helps my life along but it also makes me gain weight at the drop of a hat.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure.

ROBERT HAND: It is in the first house. Now let me...

CHRIS BRENNAN: I think that is the most practical application of the technique in someways which is just allowing you to identify make those sort of distinctions with the two benefics and two malefics so...

ROBERT HAND: Particularly those two, yes. For example what is wrong with Saturn in the nocturnal chart? And that is this. Saturn's function is to delineate limits and make structures and things and it has a very strong drive, oh yes.. speaking is a different head of will, the energy has a very strong drive to do this but at night it doesn't know when to stop?

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm.

ROBERT HAND: Because there is no limit.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: Say it.

CHRIS BRENNAN: So it goes too far in creating the sort of boundaries or restrictions?

ROBERT HAND: Yeah, It either sets a goal which is impossibly unattainable or it sets a goal which keeps changing everytime you approach it. The later one is the worst, the first one is can be actually dealt with somewhat but most people who have a nocturnal Saturn, I have seen this over and over and over again. Especially they have some aspect that indicates perfectionest like Sun Saturn and Mars Saturn and it is a nocturnal chart. They don't know what constitute adequacy and they just keep up in the empty until somebody like me comes along and says 'Hey! Wait a minute, make an arbitrary decision for a goal and achieve it then you can up the empty but don't up to empty when you are moving. It is not.' I had this tendency myself, I am a nocturnal chart so I have a Saturn of course I have a Saturn in my chart and it is above the horizon so it is almost completely out of the sect, but it is in a diurnal sign that is one saving grace and it wasn't till I realize that the constantly up in the empty, stop it. A major point by the way is one can consciously take control of these effects. You are not cursed by it but you do have to be aware that it is the problem.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Yeah, I mean that is an issue that we discussed a few episode ago with Leisa Schaim when we talked about the Saturn returns and the application of sect is that one of the arguments against the benefic and malefic distinction in modern astrology, I think, in the late 20th century was that they would point to certain placements like Saturn and they would say you know sometimes we can see certain people that have really negative Saturn transits or negative Saturn return experiences but other times there is these people they have really constructive, almost cause positive experiences with this planet and therefore that was the fundamental

argument against making any distinction between benefic and malefic because they argued that the placement could work out in a constructive or destructive fashion and that was entirely up to the native than one on the say whereas it seems the recovery of sect seems to imply that I am not clear if it is less about actually that is up to the native sometimes it goes back to a chart placement of well sometimes people with night charts do struggle with Saturn more and the people with day charts due tend to struggle it with somewhat less. What is that comes into play?

ROBERT HAND: Well, you see it is not an either/or situation

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm.

ROBERT HAND: A better definition for a difficult planet and malefic is harder to work with.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: And similarly a benefic is easier to work with sometimes and I believe it is always possible at least in theory to make everything work properly, everthing worked in a beneficial way. The problem is you are not entirely free to make this decision on your own. Totally aside from your own personal awareness your awareness is also conditioned by your family culture, your local culture, your national culture and the general zeitgeist of the time in which you are born and it simply isn't possible that everybody everywhere can get the same benefit out of the same symbols because even if they themselves rise up enormously in their own understanding they still have to battle those culturel factors as well and so Saturn in the Middle Ages get basically had only one real outlet and that was repression, structure, order but then you have had a lot of people that love structure and order they were the ones who were on top of course and for them it wasn't a malefic.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure.

ROBERT HAND: And I think that is true for all of them. The Mars thing again the unconditional willingness to do whatever is necessary. I will share with you my favourite quote which is not in the book mainly because I hadn't seen the movies yet they weren't out. The lord of the rings when Arogorn introduces himself to the Hobbits it is different in the book and the movie but it is same quote exactly. They would have remove this quote, they should have been shot but they didn't, they did move it *'I am Arogorn, Sun of Arathorn. If by life or death I can save you I will.'*

CHRIS BRENNAN: Nice.

ROBERT HAND: Here the unconditional statement.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right.

ROBERT HAND: And then my second favour one which is not quite as good but it illustrates an unambiguity in the whole matter in the old version of the Coratti kid. Pete Moretti who was playing the Coratti Master said *'Best way to win fight is to not be there.'*

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm.

ROBERT HAND: You see a person who is highly marsial. It is completely in touch with the energy that is not wasted are used for narrowly egoistic purposes.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay. Going back to altruism sort of theme.

ROBERT HAND: Exactly. That actually is a nocturnal threat.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Got it.

ROBERT HAND: This is why we had to look careful with this good bad stuff. We have to understand that it is a very abstract philosophical definition they meant because altruism is actually assuming it is done stupidly is a very good thing.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure. Yeah. It can be misapplied.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. Of course, it can. I mean the old line from the Bible '*cast not thy pearls before swine*' which basically means 'don't be altruistic the people who won't benefit from your gift '

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure.

ROBERT HAND: It is always for gift.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure. Well that brings us back then to I guess just as practical application and distinction may be as we are talking about these people should know about just the idea that generally speaking Mars tends to be experienced more positively in some sense when it is in a night chart whereas it tends to be a little bit more challenging when it is in a day chart and conversely with Saturn, Saturn tends to be more challenging when it is in a night chart and it tends to be a bit more constructive or easier to deal with when it is in a day chart whereas for the benefics it is Jupiter prefers to be in a day chart as well placed if it is in a night chart.

ROBERT HAND: Right.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Venus prefers to be in a night chart and does not do as well if it is in a day chart.

ROBERT HAND: I have actually tell it up to some degree. This is very simple because it takes much longer time to do this. The effects of a planet being in and out of sect, just wanna find the relevant passage here. Yeah. Here is my description of Venus, severely out of sect this is a one-liner because outfit on the slide 'love given unconditioned and it is more self indulgent.'

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm.. Okay.

ROBERT HAND: whereas...

CHRIS BRENNAN: There would be Venus in a day chart.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah, you got it.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay. Go ahead.

ROBERT HAND: The Sun actually in a nocturnal chart is not all that terrible but it isn't very sour, more introverted, less social, cares less about controlling others. Mars when it is completely out of sect it is vulgarant, competitive and selfish. Mercury I really have to say I don't see much of an effect. I think they just put it in there which they figure they had a count for but it is also not masculine or feminine.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right. Yeah, it always has that in between stage and pretty much in every tradition of astrology

ROBERT HAND: Yeah, it is the as I say and Mercury swings and then even the Moon in a diurnal chart tends to set more conditions for giving love and support than it does in nocturnal chart.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay. Interesting.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah.

CHRIS BRENNAN: So okay so that is the part of the practical application is basically that there is an interpretive distinction between whether each of these planets especially the benefics and malefics are in a day chart or in a night chart so we have talked a little bit about other applications such as sect telling you whether you need to reverse the calculation of a Lot by day or by night. It also has other applications to the triplicity rulers which change depending on if it is a day or night chart. It can either also be applied to finding the ruler of the chart was usually the sect of the chart was very much depended on that have you done much work in that area?

ROBERT HAND: That is what you are talking about is the sect light or sect luminary or luminary that has authority that has all kinds of names which is the Sun by day and the Moon by night. As a matter effect Dorotheus of Sidon all the samples or many of the sample charts purely deal with the placement of the triplicity lords of the sect light and from that makes a general statement whether it is gonna be good life or a bad one and in this case they mean bad, they mean bad you know like ending up as a begger on the street things like that and so those triplicity lords are in Medieval astrology considered to be very important however there is another use which is not so widely known and that is two related uses. One is the triplicity lords rule time in sequence, now which ones go aware depends on whether it is a day or night chart. If it is a day chart the day time triplicity ruler is the first of the three and the night time is the second and there is a third one which doesn't have much application, outside what I am just talking about now. In the night time the nocturnal lord rules first the diurnal lord rules second and again there is this participating ruler which is the same day and night. Now so these three lords in which ever ordered they go rule in the beginning, in the middle and in the end so this is the Medieval technic I am talking about. This is a similar one which we have discussed in Valens which uses it in a different way of timing but he only uses the two first one, and he doesn't use the third one at all. When you look at the triplicity lords in terms of beginning middle end take Bill Gates for example whose second house is Leo and he has Jupiter in it and the first app in case night time birth or Jupiter was the first triplicity lord. Okay. It is in the second house so he was born in a fairly wealthy family. The Sun...

CHRIS BRENNAN: so he has a night chart.

ROBERT HAND: He has a night chart.

CHRIS BRENNAN: His Moon is in Aries so...

ROBERT HAND: We are changing now the houses.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Oh, you are just looking at house triplicity rulers?

ROBERT HAND: Yeah.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: If you are doing the chart as a whole you would do the Moon, correct.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay, got it so you are looking at the second house which is Leo which is a fire sign.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah so the Jupiter is the first triplicity lord, It is the night time ruler.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: And the Sun is the second lord and the Sun is reasonably okay and Saturn is the third one.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: Well. He didn't do it right on the money but according to Bonatti and his sources these three periods are roughly a Saturn cycle. He says thirty years I say Saturn cycle because that is the minor period of Saturn and it happened so I say twenty nine point something he say thirty.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure.

ROBERT HAND: As Gates approached his second Saturn return he started giving away his money.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right.

ROBERT HAND: Whereas in the first two periods he just 'brought it in' on a grand scale borned with reasonable amount than man made a whole of a lot more. It is just my...

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay so yeah and so that is a great application and just the idea that you can use sect combined with the triplicity rulers technique from the Hellenistic and Medieval tradition to determine what planets are the rulers of certain parts of a person's life and being able to clarify different parts of a person's life and distinct phases?

ROBERT HAND: Then the second application which depends on triplicity lords is the from this Dudhsagar his real name. He gets butchered both by Arabic writers like Alchabitius or Al-Qabisi and really badly by Bonatti but to make a long story short... Dudhsagar said and we don't have the original work all we have is everybody quoting the same passage from him because he is the only one who talked about it and but that doctrine stocked like clue survived into the early modern period I ensure you and that is that in several of the houses the first triplicity lord rules one of the things that house signifies, the second triplicity lord rules another aspect of what that house signifies and the third triplicity lord indicates a third factor to that house signifies. Now for the first and second houses it simply mean beginning, middle and end but the first lord... I wanna check this one.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure.

ROBERT HAND: I think I have the order backward in anyway the first triplicity... yes I do have it backward. The first triplicity lord is older siblings, the second triplicity lord, this is the third house now, is siblings close to the native's age and the third triplicity lord is younger siblings.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right. Yeah. This is a huge issue in astrology and especially even in traditional astrology where you have specific houses that have a broad sort of archetypal meaning but there is several very different specific significations within a house and normally when you are just looking at the domicile lord of the house or something like that sometimes it is hard to know which signification is specifically get a come up in person's life or that it is gonna refer to.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah.

CHRIS BRENNAN: But this medieval technique was an attempt to deal with that by distinguishing between specific or different significations within a singular house.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. For example the fifth house is one of those that has all kinds of apparently unrelated significations.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure so like children and...

ROBERT HAND: Second lord is having a good time that would include love affairs, it is just said pleasures but the third one is messengers and gifts sending messages by a messenger not just sending a letter and giving gifts because this was related to what lords do when they are negotiating they send messengers who bare gifts like that famous opening scene of Henry V where the Dauphin sends him a whole pile of tennis ball, play tennis, don't bother...don't try to deal with friends and that is for provokes Henry V to making a war right there in there.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah and now this one I don't really honestly know works but the principle behind it. It is very simple. If the first triplicity lord of the house of children is really in [rated](#) shaped then children is not what is going to be about.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: If the second triplicity lord is in great shape then the person is going to will enjoy having a good time or games and sports and stuff like that and then I have the third one this really I don't know too many people who spent their life sending messengers and gifts outside of the department of state but the principles is perfectly clear. Another one that is really a major problem is the ninth house and if three lords indicate journeys, surprise surprise, religion and assigns divination and whether or not it is true and whether or not rumours are true.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay. Yeah, because the ninth house is the pretty broad house in terms of the different significations and this would be a technique for narrowing down which ones specifically you are talking about?

ROBERT HAND: Exactly. And if this works this is an incredible breakthrough because like you said while I perfectly and willing to except the idea that people to have choices in these matters, nevertheless they have hardwired inclinations.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure. The path of least resistance.

ROBERT HAND: Exactly and as long as they are not being whatever called terribly conscious about their lifes. Then they will pick the path of least resistance which is quite frequently not a good path.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm.

ROBERT HAND: Half the time I would say roughly.

CHRIS BRENNAN: So in that sort of philosophical model people would tend to operate as their birth chart has it laid out for them most of the time whether for good or bad and it would require a lot of conscious intension to change it otherwise.

ROBERT HAND: Yes I am fond of saying the first two difficult aspects of faith. The first one is natural law you can't escape it you know you are physically incarnated wellcome to the world of more physics works. The second one however is called necessity but it is really the result of ignorance and one of my favourite made up Latin models translates as '*for the ignorant there is no freedom.*'

CHRIS BRENNAN: Interesting.

ROBERT HAND: And there isn't even for people who are not so ignorant but people who basically operate out of ignorance and are absolutely predictable, especially by astrology.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right, because they would just do exactly what their chart indicates that they would do.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah but I also have seen off a lot of people who don't, what they do something that the chart indicates but not what most people would do.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: And then we take a high manifestation of it. That's why I don't think I am blowing smoke when I talk about these high manifestations. I have seen too many of them.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure. Okay. Well, so as we start to get to towards the end of this one of the question we should adress that we meant to circle back around to why so sect you know the first century and first few century sect is an incredibly important that is almost the first thing any astrologer would look at or mention any time there is a sort of chart delineation but as the tradition goes on especially after the Hellenistic tradition and in the early Medieval tradition you start to see used a little bit less and then...

ROBERT HAND: Not much, just a little less.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right. Just a little less and as the tradition progresses by the late Medieval and then eventually by the Renaissance period sect is almost virtually disappeared from a lot of the discussion and the question why that is?

ROBERT HAND: Well, like ourselves the early modern astrologers beside from there Arabophobia because of the Islam matter we have to keep in mind that Islamic world almost completely concrete Europe three times. Once in the early Middle Ages and twice in the 16th and 17th century so anything Islamic or Arabic got became unfashionable everybody try to reconstruct astrology from Ptolemy. Well probably number one is. Well Ptolemy mentions it you hardly see him doing anything with that except nocturnal planets like to be around other nocturnal planets and so forth so the emphasis on Ptolemy tended to reck the emphasis on sect that way. Another way is he abandoned almost all of the Lots. He only used the Part of Fortune and that only occasionally for certain specific purposes and as people started to going back to Ptolemy they realized that the all these Arabic parts is they called them even though they were in fact Hellenistic Egyptian were part of the Greek Arabic accretion that accrued in the Middle Ages. Basically it was that revolution they did it. I will just make it flat. When the Turks nearly concrete Vienna twice and in early modern period that is one astrology gave up everthing they had to do with Lots etc, etc... and sect got carried along with it.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure.

ROBERT HAND: And also both the Hellenistic, I mean you are doing very good work, trying to uncover the theoretical underpinning this of Hellenistic astrology but you have got to admit. It is not like you found a philosophical treatise somewhere you are having to deuce it.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Yeah. There is a lot of inference in reading between the lines that has to take place.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah and so do I and that is the way it is because the only philosophical statements who ever made about astrologers were made by people like Plotinus and Iamblichus who are philosophers primarily and they sort of darkly hint especially Iamblichus that there might be very practical applications in terms of spiritual yogas but nothing concrete is survived. Proclus in his theology of Plato the whole fourth volume was lost. It was almost entirely about the philosophical significant of astrology. We have only a crude idea what he was going to say...

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm

ROBERT HAND: So you ordinary day to day astrologers almost entirely dell with [meat potatoes](#) aspects of astrology be they Hellenistic Greek speaking, Coptic speaking or whatever or Latin speaking and then the Arabic astrologers were more or less in the same condition so when early modern more philosophically oriented type started trying to work with this they pretty much inferred their philosophy from Ptolemy and just are dropping things left and right. It didn't make sense.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure or that weren't in Ptolemy or weren't clearly explained when additional theory that I have had about the decline of sect as the tradition progresses that I think their motivate a little bit of mistake in evaluating the two sect related rejoicing conditions to be on par with the primary condition which is just is it a day

or night chart and if it is a day or night chart then certain planets are gonna be doing better and certain planets are gonna be doing worse.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah.

CHRIS BRENNAN: So that was always the primary distinction in the Hellenistic tradition and then they said and an addition to that there are these two additional secondary rejoicing conditions which is the planet above the horizon or below the horizon and then is the planet in a diurnal sign of the zodiac or nocturnal sign of the zodiac and that would be like additional side conditions but those were almost very seldom mentioned in the Hellenistic tradition compared to just a primary consideration.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. I have actually, I have come to two possible conclusions on how if you want to do the indulgent in Medieval practise scoring sect, one is to pretty much go on with the Hellenistic and say that the minor conditions of sect are relevant only if the planet is in sect of the chart, say hypothetically give at a plus 5 or a minus 5, plus 5 if the chart is the right sect and minus 5 if the chart isn't and then if it has any other factors that contribute, if in addition it has other factors that contribute you add dose on, if in addition that has other factors that take away in addition to the chart itself you get a more serious minus score, that is one rule or the other one is simply to give the chart 5 and the other ones you know 1 and 2 or 2 and 3 not go down by increments of 1 because yeah it is clearly true that the sect of the chart as a whole is the baggy inspirationally as well as in the Hellenistic literature.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure. Well, that could be may be an explanation as well, because I think if you didn't treated that way, if you approached that assuming all three were on par with each other and their importance then the technique might not work as effectively and therefore is the tradition went on perhaps they would be applying in a sort of mistaken way therefore not seeing it works as well and therefore starting to devalue it in terms of their own practice over time.

ROBERT HAND: Yes. I think that is quite correct. Yeah, it is nothing like using a technique in properly if you destroy its validity.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right. Exactly and then you know people defending it is you know having to say you know you are not necessarily using this properly it becomes a weird debate you know over a technique when a person is not using it properly. I think we run into that a lot when it comes to traditional techniques in general and the question of whether they are being tested in a way that is appropriate or in keeping with how they used to be used or if they are being used in a or tested in a sort of appropriate fashion.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah, I will give you an example. I am now in the third triplicity lord category of the ninth house, is the rumour true?. I heard from two different people Lee Lehman and the statistics professor at University of Michigan.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Yeah, If he thought statistics at Kepler.

ROBERT HAND: Right, right... Yeah... Come on... Having seen in a moment here as I know well. It will come to me If I stop trying. That is how it works. Both of them said that a [faith](#) took the sect of the planet in the chart into

consideration and then replicated the Gauguelin studies that additional consideration. The odds against chance rose significantly.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm... Okay.

ROBERT HAND: And not only that. All of the planets became significant.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Yeah, so sect could change the results of the Gauguelin tests.

ROBERT HAND: Yes. For example I haven't done a study but theoretically I would argue that Mars in athlete would probably be stronger in a diurnal chart than in a nocturnal chart because what you do you are trying to win, period.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Hmm. Sure.

ROBERT HAND: Especially in the kinds of sport they did which were you know not team sports. Team sports they couldn't find the effect, because they are the players have to be altruistic so I wouldn't be surprised if you did find the effect in the nocturnal charts.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay.

ROBERT HAND: Give you.... so another words if this is correct that I don't know for sure if it is about if this information I got many years ago was correct then the fact that Gaugueline found anything is a remarkable testimony of the strengths of the effect because if the planets being in and out of sect would tend to cancel out then all you be testing is the residual

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. That is actually what about my motivations for getting into the history of astrology right from the begining because after years of working in the area of scientific research of astrology or at least you know cheering loudly for it I realized that you know this may be the problem here is may be testing astrology that is not fundamentally correct. Let's go back and check.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Yeah, I mean that is one of the lingering things that bothers me when people invokes some of the scientific test that were done like in 1980s like the Carlson's test is that so many of the basic theoretical principles I don't feel like a Western astrology weren't even worked out yet and you are still missing you know we didn't even know what the original house system was until ten years later when you through the work of Project Hindsight you rediscovered whole sign houses and then you rediscovered sect this hugely important distinction and I don't think a lot of this stuff has been reintegrated into the tradition enough to be able to do tests like that properly at this point.

ROBERT HAND: I agree. Yeah. The Carlson test was a singularly thought study. One of the leading statistician of the period wrote an article excoriating the quality of that study. That was little things like number one Carlson was a physicist, the program is supposed to be administered not only people that who are in psychology but people who went specifically trained to give the test an evaluated results. Secondly men and women had different profiles

and you have to know the gender of the person who interpreted the text that was ignored completely. I am not talking about astrology you know I am talking about the protocol for this lingering in that test.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right. It was like the California personality index or something?

ROBERT HAND: Yeah, inventory actually is also regarded as one of the more useless tests because it is so difficult, It would administer properly and here we have somebody who knew nothing at all but I hear the arrogance of many scientist [will even](#) because he was scientifically trained he can do anything in any science he wanted to.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Right and then...Yeah, I would really be interested to talk. I'd like to do actually a whole show on science of astrology some of the past test like that because there is a lot of question I have about that time period in like 1980s and what was going on and what happened? because it seems like there is this big a lot of pushed towards science and research in the 60s and 70s and 80s and then a lot of them came back negative and a kind of dropped off by the 90s and then there was this period of like soul searching of you know what does this mean and then you have works like Geoffrey Cornelius is the Moment of Astrology coming out of that time period and different people are drawing different conclusions about the results of scientific testing that took place in the 80s and earlier.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah, One of my favorite examples a fairly well known English astrologer who converted the siderialism and I don't mean Indian astrology. I mean Western siderial which has a tendency to throw out of almost everything and he gave up astrology because it didn't work 'Well. Yeah. I [filled for out](#) all the techniques but I got, isn't going to.'

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure.

ROBERT HAND: But I think the subject why astrology works is a ... It works because *'things aren't the way they seem at all'*. Sebastian [give](#). It is not actually I can give a much better answer, it would take another hour to do it.

CHRIS BRENNAN: We will save that for another show so okay so last point in terms of sect is just even if at the most simplest level one of the basic distinctions that may be people could walk away from this with is contrary to even Sun sign astrology you know just knowing that you have a day chart or a night chart and that the Sun is gonna be more important in a day chart and the Moon is gonna be more important in a night chart. Do you think that has basic distinction or interpretive value in may be saying that people should focus more on the Sun if they have a day chart and more on the Moon if they have a night chart?

ROBERT HAND: Absolutely. I am a Sagittarius Sun and Scorpio Moon in a nocturnal chart. Thanks that the fact I have a Jupiter rising the Sagittarius is obvious but I am not a classic Sagittarius excepted my interest and just about everything. My humour and my literary styles are definitely Scorpionic.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay. Excellant. Well, in that of itself is just a huge distinction so that is interesting and we didn't know about until 20 years ago until the research that you another start to doing to revive this technique so thanks for doing that.

ROBERT HAND: Okay and I hope some of your listeners will enroll my webinar. There is no limit on enrollment because we are using Go to Webinar which can handle any number beyond what we are [applied](#) to get.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Yes, so let us about the webinar. It is gonna take place on July 26th.

ROBERT HAND: Right. Starting at 10:00 am PST. I will probably be on the East Coast when that happens all be started at 1:00 pm. It is not a full day. It is...

CHRIS BRENNAN: I think it sets something like from 10:00 am until 6:00 pm and I wasn't sure there was a break or lunch or something...

ROBERT HAND: It is not that long. No. This is a shorter one which is why it is a little less expensive than [redacted] ones. I think 3 hours with a short break in the middle then an hour break during which people are supposed to come up with questions and then an hour to whenever we get finished discussing the questions, second session.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay so we have a full hour long Q&A directly with you.

ROBERT HAND: At least, yeah. I mean a frankly my intention with [redacted] as to go on either even my mind goes smash or until we went all sort of questions

CHRIS BRENNAN: Awesome. That is a really like unique opportunity I think for a lot of people especially younger astrologers that haven't had a chance to interact with you in conferences and the things yet.

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. That is. I hope to increase those opportunities in [redacted] distant future but this will definitely be an example of a style. Yeah.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay. Excellent.

ROBERT HAND: We had Q&A sections in the other ones but not like that.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay, great, well yeah. Definitely I think people should join and then they will get a copy of the recording of the workshop and handouts and a copy of your e-book on sect

ROBERT HAND: They don't get the handouts. Well I think... No. That's right, they do get the handouts but also recordings as a video.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Okay so it will be all of your powerpoint slides and everthing.

ROBERT HAND: That is all about it actually. You don't see much of me in it because I usually have... for one thing it tends to create bend with problems if I live it on you know same problems with Skype so I usually turn it off and turn around time to time so people know I am still there and that is not just a prerecorded announcement.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Sure. All right. Great. Well I am sure a lot of people will join and thanks for coming on the show to talk about sect and I have to have you again, on again sometime to talk about that issue of science in astrology

ROBERT HAND: Yeah. I'd love to actually. Okay.

CHRIS BRENNAN: Excellent. All right. Thanks for everyone listening. We will see you next time.

ROBERT HAND: And invite you all.