

MERCURY RETROGRADE ON ELECTION DAY
THE ANATOMY OF AN INTERPRETATION
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Many of you appreciate these astrological interpretations. The astrological technique behind the interpretations is not something I expect readers to understand, but you might like to have a taste of what goes on behind the scenes. Take the astronomical fact that on the day of the recent election, November 6th, the planet Mercury turned retrograde in the heavens.

The fact that Mercury went retrograde on Election Day is pure astronomy; it is fact, not astrology. The astrology part is about what the astronomical fact of Mercury retrograde means to us; let's call it cultural astronomy. What does it mean to have Mercury go retrograde on November 6th, the day of the election? In the blogs and comments about Mercury retrograde on election day that I saw, there were a lot of oohs and aahs about Mercury retrograde, and suggestions that it was an inauspicious sign, at best. Is that all we astrologers have to say? It is not.

I wish there were space here and we had time for me to gradually explain exactly how the astronomy of Mercury retrograde works, and thus how it can be interpreted. And it can be interpreted. How meaningful interpretations are depends on how useful they are. Astrology is not a religion or belief system. It is not something I "believe in," but rather something I find useful at times. At other times, I don't use it.

But the fact that Mercury turned retrograde around Noon EST on Election Day (Nov. 6, 2012) can be interpreted and I find the interpretation useful in understanding the outcome of the election, the fact that a liberal Democrat was re-elected.

The fact that Mercury went retrograde on November 6th means it was (from Earth's view) as far ahead of the Sun in the zodiac as it can get. It was traveling in degrees of the zodiac that the Sun had not traveled in for a year. It was, therefore, in the future area of the sky/zodiac where the Sun would eventually (soon) pass through. Not only was it in the future, but it was as far in the future as possible at the moment of retrograde for that planet.

At the moment before it turned direct (Noon on Nov. 6th, EST), Mercury was not only as far in the future as it would get, it was even then still traveling or looking outward farther. In other words, it was "future oriented." The Democratic party and outlook is generally considered future oriented or progressive.

So the general mind of the country was not only in a liberal, future, or progressive mood, it was extremely in that mood (to the max) as much as it could be. Is it no wonder that this was auspicious for Democrats?

Even when it turned retrograde later on that day, and very slowly began to move backward in the zodiac, it was still in the future, but it was no longer 'as' progressive. The beginning of a more conservative frame of mind was taking place, and that more-conservative-liberal view would pick up steam until Mercury and the Sun were conjunct or at the same place in the zodiac, which took place November 17th.

The Sun always represents the present moment, the spot where the Earth/Sun actually are in the zodiac. Retrograding Mercury was conjunct the Sun on November 17th (yesterday, depending on your time zone), so at that time Mercury moved from being in the future of the Sun, to being in the past or wake of the Sun, the area of the zodiac where the Sun has already been this year. Now it is in a conservative of past-oriented mood, and will get increasingly conservative until it goes stationary-direct on November 26th, 2012.

When it goes direct, it will still be in the conservative past, but will then be once again future oriented. In other words, it will be in a progressive-conservative frame of mind. These are the four moods of Mercury. See if you can follow this:

Progressive-Liberal (Mercury Direct and ahead of the Sun, until it goes retrograde)

Conservative-Liberal (Mercury retrograde, but still ahead of the Sun)

Conservative-Conservative (Mercury Retrograde, but behind the Sun in the zodiac)

Progressive-Conservative (Behind the Sun, but after Mercury once-again goes Direct)

I apologize if this is too technical for some of you. This is really for astrology buffs and professional astrologers. If you want to read about this more carefully (with illustrations and interpretations), please download my free e-book "Burn Rate: The Retrograde Phenomenon" here:

<http://astrologysoftware.com/books/>

DIAGRAM: Now, see if you can follow the above while looking at the diagram. There is the Sun at 14-degrees Scorpio at the moment Mercury went retrograde on November 6th. The Sun is the circle with a dot in it. The light-blue area marked "Liberal" marks the area of the zodiac we are calling the future, embracing the everything in the zodiac between the Sun and Mercury.

Don't be confused, but the red area, marked "conservative" is just there to show you how far Mercury might have been BEHIND the Sun, were that to occur on Election Day. It did not.

Still not trying to confuse, but it is an interesting fact that when Mercury goes Direct on November 26th of this month, the Sun will roughly be at the point in the zodiac where Mercury was when it went retrograde on November 6th, around 4-5-degrees of Sagittarius.

Again, see my whole book on this interesting subject, mentioned above. And the gist of all this is to point out that retrogrades can be interpreted with more definition. And all planets, in their retrograde motions, can be interpreted in the same way we just looked at with Mercury.

Now, please at least a few of you tell me this is relatively clear.

Election Day
Nov. 6, 2012

