



Questions the Planets Ask Us, March 2005

The planets are the major players in astrology, because represent different needs that all of us carry inside of us. The signs and houses that those planets fall in can tell us more about those needs individually, but there are basic human needs that we all have in common. The planets represent certain questions that everyone needs to ask themselves to get those basic needs met and to learn how to feed ourselves in the way we need to be fed. The sign and house placement of each planet in our natal chart, as well as any aspects each planet is a part of, illuminates the answer to the questions. The sign placement can tell us the hows and whys in answer to a planet's questions. The house placement can tell us the wheres – the specific situations and activities that form to help us work out the answers to the planet's questions.

Likewise, when a planet is transiting through our chart, its temporary location can highlight an area in our life where we need to be asking the specific questions that the transiting planet represents, in order to continue our growth. For instance, if we have our natal Uranus in our 9th house, that tells us that the Uranian sort of questions we need to ask ourselves are best asked and answered within the context of our own beliefs and the way we expand our horizons, stretching what we think we know and being willing to surprise ourselves. We need to form our own unique beliefs and philosophies about living life and the right way for us to live it, likely breaking away from the 'norms' that society has formed, because we have to find our own way. If Uranus is transiting our natal 9th house, it is temporarily moving through it, and the questions of individuality that Uranus asked are coming up for us temporarily to help us ask ourselves different questions than we might normally ask if we don't have Uranus in our 9th house natively, to further our development.

The Sun asks us: Who are you fundamentally, and what is at your core self that you need to do to shine? How does it look when your light has gone out? What activities in your life help you brighten that light? What does it look like when you are behaving as though you are the center of the Universe?"

The Moon asks us: What is your reigning emotional need for happiness? What sorts of activities help you feel comforted and safe? What sorts of buttons, when pushed in you, cause you to throw an emotional tantrum?

Mercury asks us: How can you best communicate your thoughts and feelings? Where and how will you receive the most information which you have to be open-minded about and willing to learn?

Venus asks us: What are your needs in a relationship and what do you need to do to attract the people you need in your life? What sorts of things do you find beautiful? Where might you be prone to displays of vanity?

Mars asks us: Where and how will you need to fight necessary battles in your life to gain courage and strength? What is your method of 'attack', whether it is in defense or in pursuit of a goal? What does your behavior look like when you are feeling cruel, antagonistic or touchy?

Jupiter asks us: Where and how are you underestimating yourself? Where do you need to think bigger than you realize? Where is your potential for joy and accomplishment boundless if you cultivate faith in yourself and life? Where and how are you prone to overconfidence and over extension?

Saturn asks us: Where do you need to work hard to develop talents that may not come naturally to you, but will be rewarding? What sorts of activities will help me learn to depend on myself? What areas of life will a lack of discipline keep me stuck and depressed?

Uranus asks us: Where and how will you need to break away from the norm and follow your own authentic path? Where do you need to discover your own answers because no one else's answers will satisfy? Where are you prone to pointless rebellion if you don't express your individuality in authentic ways?

Neptune asks us: Where and how in your life do you need to rely less on logic and facts and learn to read the signs available to you from life and from your own intuition? What sorts of things and activities inspire you? Where am I prone to confusion and naiveté if I am out of touch with my spirit?

Pluto asks us: What is the nature of your own personal hell that you have to be willing to face in order to retrieve your power instead of letting your pain slowly kill you? Where are you prone to engaging in power struggles due to your own woundedness? What is the nature of your strongest source of power?

The moon's nodes ask us: What assumptions about life do you need to leave behind (south node) in order to discover your soul's higher lessons (north node)? What activities will help me stretch in a new and beneficial direction (north node)?