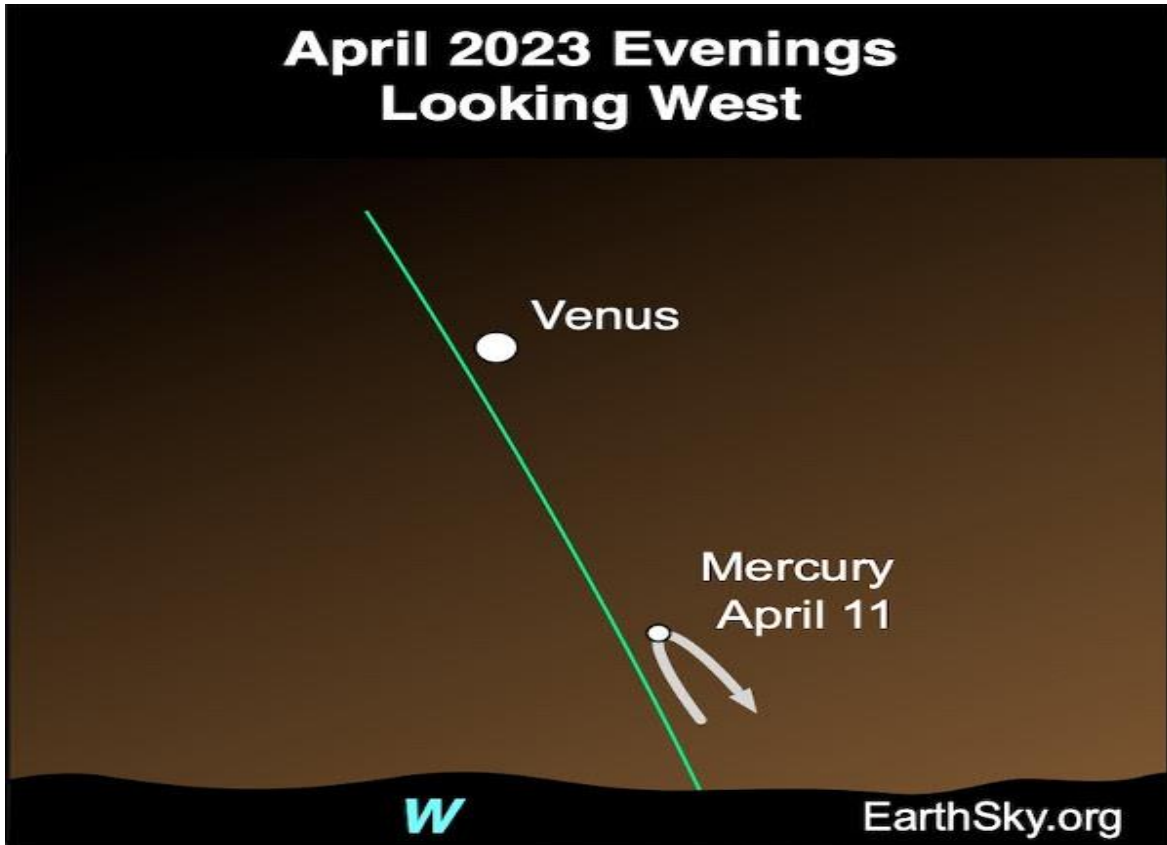


Mercury at is best for viewing in all of 2023 in northern hemisphere What does Mercury mean for us?



Mercury reaches its greatest elongation today, April 11th. That's its greatest apparent distance from the sunset. So this week is a grand time to see our sun's innermost planet. In fact, for the Northern Hemisphere, this is Mercury's best evening elongation of 2023. As the innermost planet, Mercury is tied to the sun in our sky. It never ventures very far above the horizon after sunset. So as soon as the sun disappears below your horizon, your clock starts ticking. (EarthSky)

Mercury events in 2023

Jan 7, 2023: Inferior conjunction (between Earth and sun) in stars of Archer

Jan 30, 2023: Greatest elongation (morning)

Mar 17, 2023: Superior conjunction (passes behind sun from Earth) just in the stars of Pisces conjunct Neptune

Apr 11, 2023: Greatest elongation (evening)

May 1, 2023: Inferior conjunction (between Earth and sun) in stars of Aries

May 29, 2023: Greatest elongation (morning)

Jul 1, 2023: Superior conjunction (passes behind sun from Earth) in the Twins

Aug 10, 2023: Greatest elongation (evening)

Sep 6, 2023: Inferior conjunction (between Earth and sun) in the Lion

Sep 22, 2023: Greatest elongation (morning)

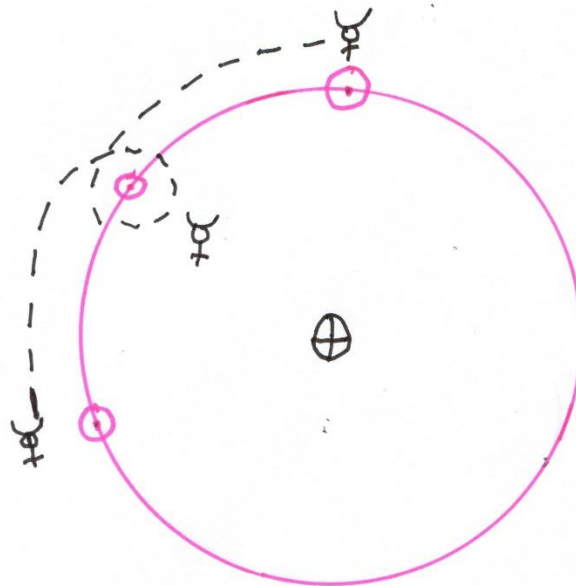
Oct 20, 2023: Superior conjunction (passes behind sun from Earth) in the Virgin

Dec 4, 2023: Greatest elongation (evening)

Dec 22, 2023: Inferior conjunction (between Earth and sun) in the Archer

The movement from superior to inferior conjunction is considered one "gesture" of Mercury, the messenger of the gods. It picks up cosmic substance from the constellations when it moves behind the Sun in superior conjunction and hands over these forces to humanity in the inferior conjunction to be taken up actively. Mercury wants humanity to bring the cosmic intelligence into earth intelligence in **practical realization in earth activity, in the will.** Mercury, the communicator from the gods with winged sandals, seeks to assist and offer substance for this activity if we can raise ourselves to it. He is a Michaelic being in service to rebuilding human collaboration with the divine.

The gesture which we are looking into is from the superior to inferior conjunction. Then in the image below, Mercury continues to the next superior conjunction, which is one full orbit of Mercury around and catching up with the Sun again.



As described in my video course and my book in the section, Christ and the Stars, these loops of Mercury can, though not always, be related to the Seven Signs of Christ described in the gospels. Willi Sucher put years of research into correlating the deeds of Christ with the movements of the stars. Because Mercury has so many loops over time in many zodiacal regions, they do not always align with the gestures during the Three Years. **However, in 2023 the loops do correspond to the loops during the Three Years.** Thus they carry a very practical inspiration from these Christ events and can become tools for us in seeking to meet these gestures in our times out of the archetypes laid down by the Christ during the Three Years.

The loop that began on March 17th at the superior conjunction just in the stars of Pisces transitioning from Aquarius, conjunct Neptune, culminates in the handing over to Earth in the inferior conjunction on May 1st in the stars of Aries, the Ram. The original gesture during the Three Years began in Aquarius just at the crossing point into Pisces and culminated in Aries. It was related to the Marriage at Cana. This

loop in 2023, can be correlated to this sign. Though the superior conjunction has actually just crossed into Pisces astronomically, it is still pictorially in the overlap of the water of Aquarius pouring over the southern Fish of Pisces. Here we have the offering of Mercury to take up the water of Aquarius, the living food, and bring it into the renewal of our thinking out of the power of the new I AM in us. It points to the shaping of new human relationships, as indicated in the Marriage at Cana, not out of the forces of the past of tribe, race, religion, nation, but out of the new ego forces from Aries. The fact that the superior conjunction is conjunct Neptune is significant as Neptune works in two ways in our time. It can become the deadening activity of Ahriman in our life forces and in our thinking (consider AI and the mechanization of intelligence) or if we take up our development now, it can become a true source of Inspiration from Aquarius and Pisces for bringing true living thinking into our earthly actions and decisions. It can point us towards the fulfillment of our Piscean tasks and on towards the goals of the 6th Age of universal brother/sisterhood.

The loop that begins on July 1st in superior conjunction in the Twins, Gemini, culminates in the inferior conjunction in Leo, the Lion. This gesture carries the memory and potentiality of the second sign of Christ, the Healing of the Nobleman's Son (or the Centurion's Son in another gospel). Here we have the potentiality to transform the old forms of hierarchy, of authority based on outer status and the polarities created by that, out of the new ego forces of the heart, (Leo). This new ego force of the heart is founded on the interrelationships of community, the interchange between the broader circle of others, the community of humans and gods with the self out of the new heart forces. In Leo we can realize the imagination of the human who becomes, not out of the centric egoic self, but out of the realization of his I from all that streams toward it from the periphery. This is the foundation for a true human community. In this way the static vertical hierarchical forms of the past which define the self out of outer authority and achievement can be transformed. In the original healing this is revealed in that the "greater" person in terms of outer rank and status recognized the true I AM in Christ who had no outer authority. As the gospels say, the nobleman "came down" to Christ, meaning he lowered himself in recognition of the One who had true spiritual rank. This reversal of the old forms of spiritual and earthly status recognized by the Nobleman was what brought about the "healing of his son".

The loop that begins on October 20th in superior conjunction in Virgo, culminates in the inferior conjunction in the tip of the arrow of the Archer on Dec. 22nd just before Christmas. This loop remembers the healing of the man who was sick and paralyzed for 38 years waiting by the pool of Bethesda for the angel to stir the waters. This healing is quite complicated in its meaning, but it is connected to his seeing, yet not understanding the great annunciation of the birth of Jesus to the Magi. This then became a debilitating condition in his will, crippling him. Meeting Christ at the pool, the great mystery that had stricken him for 38 years was resolved upon recognizing the Being for whom this event had pointed 38 years earlier. The inferior conjunction at the tip of the arrow of the Archer constellation can also point us, at Christmas, to the spiritual aims and goals of humanity which was fulfilled in the Christ incarnation. Every year at Christmas the Sun is standing in this arrow of the Archer. So, the question of Mercury is, how then can one put true mystery wisdom (Virgo) in service to the realization of the Christ working into human willing? How now can healing be brought so that wisdom is in service to love and to the realization in our willing of our true and highest human nature?

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