ASTROLOGICAL LORE
When I wrote *The Thirteenth Apostle: What the Gospel of Judas Really Says*, I highlighted two aspects of the *Gospel of Judas*. The first—the concept of Judas as the thirteenth apostle and demon double of Ialdabaoth—I was able to explore more fully than the second—the concept of the twelve other apostles as the archons below him. Even as I was putting the finishing touches on the book manuscript, I realized that I had not plummeted the depths of this second concept. I had only barely scratched the surface.

In my book, I had concluded from Jesus’ nightmarish interpretation of the disciples’ dream, that the correspondence of the twelve apostles with the twelve archons below Ialdabaoth, was understood by the author of this text to be a negative correspondence. I postulated that this correspondence was made for polemical reasons since the Sethian Christians were criticizing the Apostolic Christians for basing their teaching on ignorant disciples who were unwitting assistants to the archons and worshipers of Ialdabaoth. But I was unable to penetrate these issues more fully at that time.

I had no idea that the significance of the correspondences between the apostles and the archons went far beyond the scope of the *Gospel of Judas*, that in fact, when fully mapped, understanding these correspondences would lead me to offer answers to questions whose answers have perplexed me and others for a very long time.\(^2\) What I discovered by studying the correspondences between the apostles and the archons is that they not only reveal information about the relationships of

---

1 DeConick 2007.