chapter 6

The amazing symmetry of Ramses II.

Advanced Technology

With an increased study of ancient cultures comes an increasing amount of surprise at what they may have known and been able to do. Many ancient cultures had developed a level of advancement in sciences and mathematics that modern scholars refuse to acknowledge. Not only is their technology fascinating, but also the undeniable similarities in the ancient technology around the world are intriguing. Charles Hapgood supports this, saying, "There are curious connections and comparisons that can be made between the ancient sciences of Greece, Egypt, Babylonia, and China."[1] This chapter will focus on some of the phenomenal evidences of this ancient advanced technology. From astronomy and timekeeping to building and irrigation, the people of ancient times were able to do much more than present-day historians give them credit for.

Science, man's pursuit of knowledge of the physical world, has been practiced since the most ancient of times. Mankind is fascinated with the world and in a constant state of search and discovery. In ancient times, with such long lives and intelligent minds, the people could have made discoveries and advancements that present-day man does not yet understand. Yet this knowledge they may have had has been mysteriously forgotten in most cases. Interestingly, Andrew Tomas, in his book *We Are Not the First,* makes one very significant note. "History shows that the priests of India, Sumer, Babylon, and Egypt as well as their confreres on the other side of the Atlantic — in Mexico and Peru — were custodians of science."[2] It could be that science and religion were intimately connected, allowing only the elite to possess certain knowledge. Unfortunately, this would have made it easier for the knowledge to be lost or confused in transmission through the generations. This could have played a role in the loss of advanced technology until more present times.

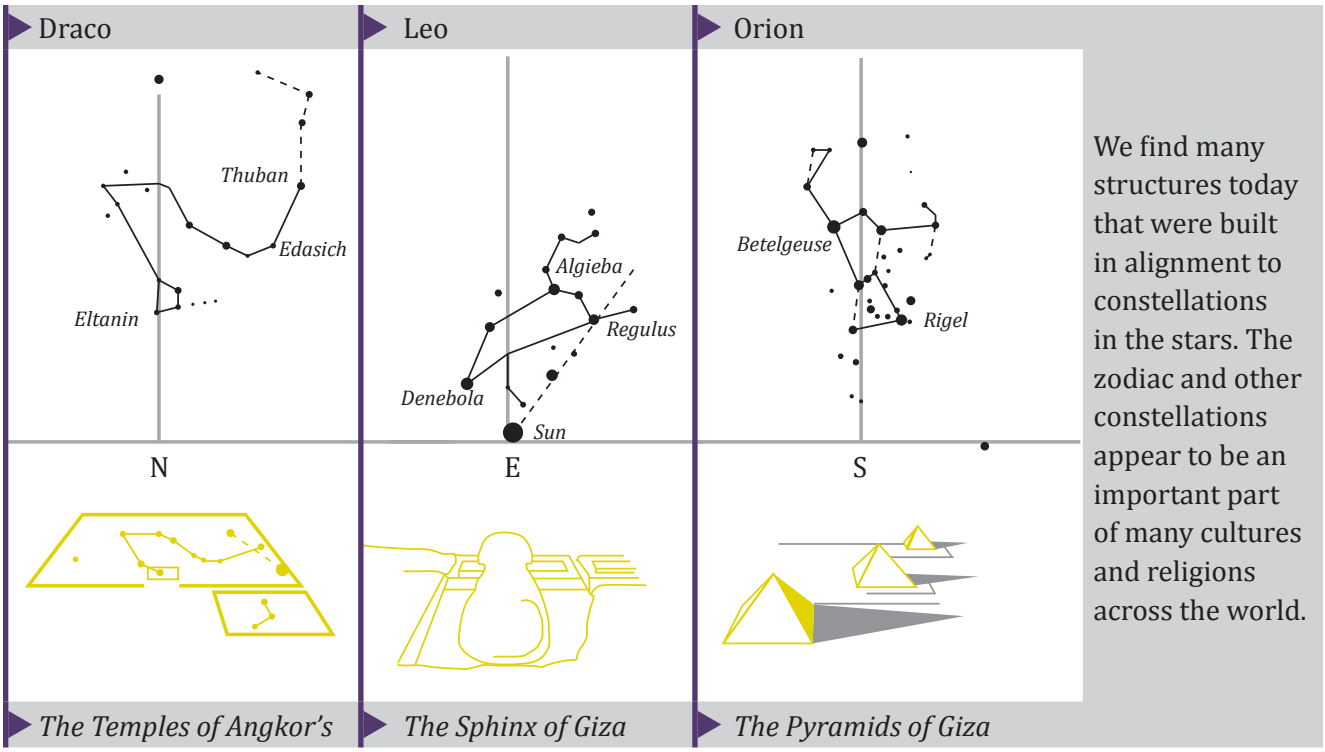
1 Hapgood, *Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings* (Kempton, IL: Adventures Unlimited Press, 1966, new edition 1996), p.185.
2 Andres Tomas, *We Are Not the First.* (Souvenir Press Ltd., 1971), p.124.

The intricate frontispiece of the Diamond Sutra from Tang Dynasty China, 868 AD (British Museum).

Some brief examples of advanced science include the chemistry of the Egyptians in making cosmetics and pigment. The ancient chemists were able to manufacture artificial lead-based compounds and add them to the cosmetics! The ancient Greeks had working steam boilers, and in Egypt there were "slot-machines" for holy water! The Chinese are well known for their ancient technology, credited with the invention of movable type (A.D. 1045), writing paper, the seismograph (A.D. 132), and the first mechanical clock (A.D. 725). Still another example of ancient intelligence is found in the statues of Ramses II. They are all perfectly symmetrical and under computer analysis it is evident that the builders used the Pythagorean triangle and the Golden triangle in the architecture. This amazing symmetry has scholars debating whether the Egyptians may have given Pythagoras his triangle concepts. These are just a few examples of the great scientific advancements that were present in ancient times.

Astronomy

Starting at Babel, astronomy has almost always been connected to the ancient religions of the post-Flood world. (The ancient people's fascination with the heavens lends further support to the idea of priest-scientists.) It is clear that that they



We find many structures today that were built in alignment to constellations in the stars. The zodiac and other constellations appear to be an important part of many cultures and religions across the world.

were skilled in astronomical studies and greatly interested in astrological signs. They used the stars practically, for time-keeping and travel, as well as religiously, aligning their monuments and buildings to different heavenly phenomena and constellations. Indeed, the zodiac and other constellations appear to be an important part of many cultures.

The Greeks and Babylonians are credited with the invention of the zodiac that is popular today, yet there are some interesting characteristics of the zodiac that imply they were not the first ones to use it. The Graeco-Babylonian zodiac includes all 12 signs, but only 4 of the signs have any real significance at a time: signifying the spring and autumn equinoxes and the winter and summer solstices. (The signs change due to precession movement.) Today these four are Pisces, Virgo, Gemini, and Sagittarius, but at the time of the Greeks and Babylonians (around the second millennia B.C.), they would have been Aries, Libra, Cancer, and Capricorn. Therefore, it seems odd that they would have included all the others. For all the signs to have significance, one must go back into the past to at least the year 4400 B.C. The implication is that the Babylonians and Greeks must have gotten their zodiac as a legacy from some earlier source. Furthermore, this earlier source could have influenced other cultures around the world as well, explaining why the same constellations are so universal. Indeed, the striking similarity between the Western zodiac and that of the pre-Columbian Maya indicates the two cultures must have had the same source.

There are some astonishing examples of an ancient sophisticated knowledge of the universe. Accurate charts and perfectly aligned monuments testify to careful study of the night sky. There is even evidence from many structures to show that ancient man had the advanced knowledge of


Mayan Calendar

astronomical movements, including the process of precession. (Precession is the minute shifting of the constellations as the earth wobbles in its spin, approximately 1 degree per 72 years.) Even in their legends, they use numbers indicating knowledge of precession and many of their structures are aligned with these movements in mind. Researcher James Nienhuis, author of *Ice Age Civilizations,* describes how these numbers and this precession knowledge is found everywhere in the cultures and legends of the ancient peoples. He brings this a step further and says that with it they were able to easily travel and accurately map the globe. Further evidence of advanced astronomy is evident in the worship of Sirius A and B, binary stars. Both the Dogon people of Africa as well as the Egyptians and Babylonians worshiped these two stars, which from the naked eye seem to be only one star.

Knowledge of the binary stars as well as early records of the rings of Saturn cause many to believe that the early people used telescope-like lenses in their observations of the heavens. The ancient use of lenses is evidenced by several other proofs. Childress claims that, for the most part, archaeologists agree that glass and crystal lenses were present in the ancient cultures and they also had relatively sophisticated glass technology. Most were made of rock crystal until the fourth century B.C. when glass lenses became available. In fact, at least 450 lenses have been found, used for different purposes ranging from fire starting to carving microscopic engravings. The Viking sun-stone is a form of lens that is supposed to have helped the ancient people navigate by finding the sun on a cloudy day.

Ancient people also used the heavens for timekeeping. Cultures all around the globe had calendars based on the sun, moon, and stars. The famous Mayan calendar, which some suggest they got from people prior to them, is a great example of ancient and accurate timekeeping. Consisting of a complex three-calendar system, the Mayans had a 365-day year, yet they knew that the year was actually a little longer. Their estimate of 365.242036 is actually more accurate than the Gregorian calendar that is currently used worldwide!

The Antikythera Mechanism is dated at least 2,000 years old – created ahead of modern-day technology!

An extremely advanced and perplexing artifact that charted the heavens and kept time is the Antikythera Mechanism (picture). Found in 1900 in the wreckage from a second-century B.C. Roman merchant ship, it is probably the most scientifically advanced artifact of the ancient world. The mechanism, about the size of a shoebox, is believed to be a mechanical computing device, at least 2,000 years old. Thirty of its original bronze gears are still intact, with the total number suggested to be 37. It is extremely complex, able to predict the movements of the sun, moon, the 12 signs of the zodiac, and possibly the five planets then known to the Greeks. It tracked the Saros, Metonic, and Callippic cycles. Apparently, it also tracked the four-year cycle of the Olympic games so the people would know which games were being played in each year. It wasn't until 17th-century clocks that anything in comparison was made.

Clearly, even in ancient times, people knew of the importance of the heavens. They were curious about the universe just as people are today, and were aptly capable of successful study and using their discoveries to their advantage. This fascination with the heavens is natural, for God said in Genesis 1:14 that the "lights in the expanse" were for "signs and for seasons and for days and years." Furthermore, God "counts the number of the stars [and] He gives names to all of them" (Psalm 147:4), so perhaps man too has the desire to know the stars as God does (see chapter 4 for more on stars).

Architecture

More evidence of ancient man's intelligence comes from the architecture and construction of their structures. Not only are there similar styles seen around the world, but there is also a puzzling lack of tools around these amazingly advanced buildings. This leaves researchers scrambling to theorize how the builders created such fascinating monuments. Many of the impressive buildings are made up of huge stones, with very little evidence testifying to how the ancient people fitted them into place. Such megalithic stones can be found all over, from the pyramids of Egypt to the stone circles of Britain to the Moai of Easter Island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Many unexplainable examples found in Peru have odd polygon shapes fitted precisely together like puzzle pieces with no mortar in between. Still more interestingly, many underwater cities have been discovered with the same megalithic construction. (See chapter 8 and 12).

Most of these megalithic projects are thought to have been completed around the same time, commonly dated to around 2000 B.C. Experts are baffled that thousands of years after construction the joints are still precise and the cracks haven't weathered but, rather, have possibly become a better fit. Currently, most of the cracks are so thin that you can't slide a credit card into them. The structures are so stable, in fact, that people throughout history have built upon them because they have passed the test of time. Yet, even with so many well-preserved examples to study, scientists have not found a way to explain how the ancients accomplished such feats. Of course, working from an evolutionary time-line, the level of technology and skill needed doesn't fit their paradigm, therefore making the construction very difficult to explain. However, with the starting point that man was created highly intelligent, one can theorize that the ancient people may have had advanced technology and abilities that don't exist today.

Scrambling for an explanation, there are many theories as to how the structures were built, but each has very little support. There are no depictions of cranes or other pulley systems which could have been used, nor are there examples of advanced machinery. With only a few vague drawings and ancient legends, it's close to impossible to come to a concrete solution. Theories range from the physically draining and impractically large labor forces pulling blocks into place (based on depictions in Egyptian hieroglyphs) to the fantastic legends of builders being able to float the huge stones by whistling or humming. Theories include:

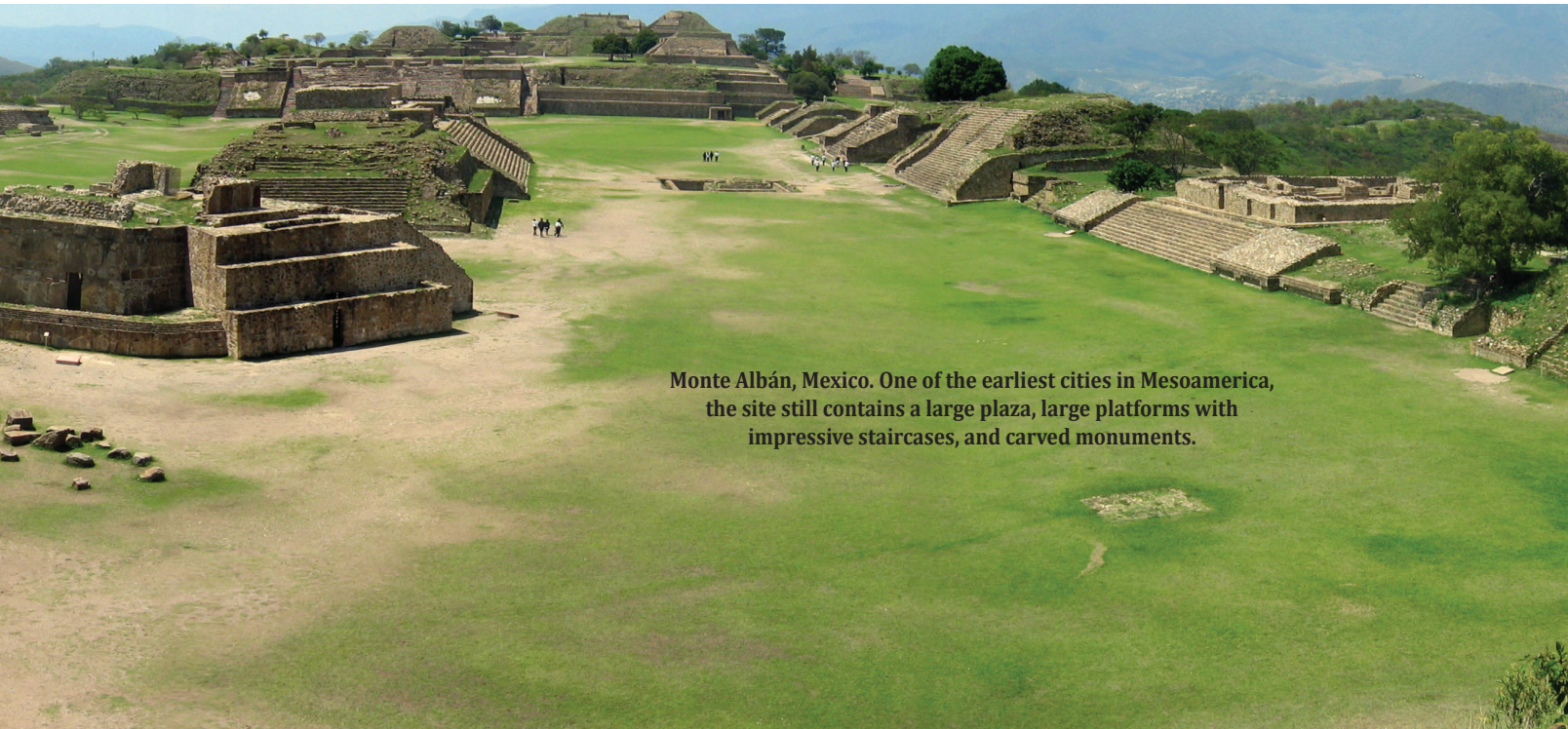
- Dinosaurs and/or other animals were domesticated and could have been used for their strength.

- A system of ramps, scaffolding, cranes, and pulleys was used.
- Men carried liquid "cement" and the blocks were actually poured and shaped in forms.
- There may have been some natural chemical that softened the stone to make its contours more workable.
- Men used levitation to lift, transport, and place the stones.
- Giants helped build structures.
- Half-demon or demon-possessed people with increased strength aided the builders.

Some of the options seem outlandish or unrealistic, but this only serves to confirm the mystery of the whole issue. Most people can quickly denounce any of the above suggestions, yet when asked to come up with their own, it seems impossible. Still, each of the options has some possibility.

For instance, the study of electrogravitics and acoustic levitation is becoming highly popular. Donald Chittick, in The Puzzle of Ancient Man, explains that electrogravitics have been used in the developments of the B-2 bomber, so it could be a real possibility. Mysteries such as the coral castle in Florida, supported by ancient legends of levitation, leave the possibility that anti-gravity could be achieved using certain frequencies of sound. Chittick also explains how the logistics of building these megaliths make traditional building techniques unlikely or at least very difficult. Furthermore, the various accounts of levitation throughout history add more confirmation to this theory. David Hatcher Childress points out that the Catholic Church claims to have two hundred saints able to conquer the force of gravity. So perhaps the supernatural was involved somehow. One must always keep in mind that Satan, who instigated the building of the very first tower, has abilities and powers that he would not fear to implement if it meant further perverting God's plan. Again, one has to wonder how much the supernatural (good or evil) may have helped accomplish some of these immense buildings and structures. It is not out of the question that the ancient people not only had advanced technology, but also aid from supernatural forces.

Yet there is also evidence that other less mystical efforts were employed. Christopher Dunn, a master craftsman and skilled machinist, has done extensive hands-on research on the pyramids of Egypt and he points to evidence of machine-worked artifacts as well as that of high-velocity drills, saws, and industrial-quality lathes. Much of his findings show techniques that have only recently been discovered.



Monte Albán, Mexico. One of the earliest cities in Mesoamerica, the site still contains a large plaza, large platforms with impressive staircases, and carved monuments.

Precise stonework, Valley Temple of Khafre, Egypt. Some blocks weigh over 100 metric tons.

Another researcher, Sir Flinders Petrie, who died in the middle of the 20th century, spent his whole life studying Egypt and tools. He discovered that diamonds would have been needed for the drilling work evidenced on Egyptian artifacts, but none were ever found in Egypt. Dunn gives further credence to this theory by Petrie and sees evidence for silicon-carbide looped wires that are currently used for cutting granite and other hard rocks. However, though copper was known and used by Egyptians, it is too soft to be used to chisel hard rock like granite. There are many examples of fine (fast) drill marks, saw marks, polished surfaces, extremely flat surfaces, and intricate 3-D contouring that so far have no explanation. Where the Egyptians got their diamonds and other materials for tools is still unknown and the disappearance of said tools makes the mystery even greater.

These straight cuts and drill holes are found in other places, too, such as in Puma Punku, Bolivia.

Both larger and smaller cuts and drill holes - Puma Punku, Bolivia.

Puma Punku shows the results of highly advanced stone-cutting techniques. Many of the blocks strewn about the Puma Punku area are intricately cut and shaped so that they fit together like Lego pieces. Experienced stone sculptor Roger Hopkins verifies the difficulty of the precision inner cuts and inner boxes that are cut into the blocks, claiming that it would be difficult even with our modern equipment to get that type of precision. He explains how these carvings would normally be done with robotic arms following computer patterns, yet still don't turn out accurate sometimes. This causes some researchers to wonder if the ancient people were able to soften the rock and shape it or if they poured rocks like concrete. However, the composition does not suggest a type of man-made concrete. Interestingly, the people who built Puma Punku are not even credited with having knowledge of the wheel or a system of writing, yet the construction of these blocks would have required a high level of engineering and mathematics.

Another example of advanced building techniques and creativity is found in South America and Egypt. Both ancient cultures used metal clamps in their

Sites like Puma Punku confound researchers because they are evidence of high levels of engineering, mathematics, and precise construction, like building blocks (top left), complex-shaped blind holes (top right) or I-shaped metal clamps (below).

blocks to hold them together. They would melt the metal and pour it into spaces between the blocks so that when it hardened it held the blocks together. This indicates that the ancient people had the knowledge and ability of smelting, confirming Genesis 4:22 which records that Tubal-cain was a forger.

Still, the utter lack of the tools themselves casts doubt on the idea that the ancients used such advanced machinery. It seems odd that there is no record or remains of them. Some suggest the people would have destroyed or re-used metals captured from other people groups, or the tools could have deteriorated or rusted to nothing through the ages. Still others point out that the tools may have been expensive and rare or perhaps only operated by the elite or religious groups. However, even with these explanations and apparent evidence of power tools, the option is far from being heralded as the ultimate solution.

How the magnificent buildings and monuments were constructed may never be known. How much knowledge and abilities these ancient builders possessed may always be a mystery to the modern world.

Sanitation & Irrigation

Another interesting proof of advancement and intelligence is the ancient sanitation and irrigation systems. In the book *Technology of the Gods,* David Hatcher Childress lists many examples of ancient plumbing and irrigation, such as the walls and terraces that the Nabatean people built to utilize the small amount of rainfall. Childress also explains how ancient Persians, 3,000 years ago, built underground aqueducts to bring mountain ground water to the dry plains. Today, their ancient system is still functioning and supplying Iran with 75 percent of its water!

Ancient Tell Asmar near Baghdad had household plumbing in some houses as well as temples. At Tell el-Amarna, an "elaborate bath" was discovered; apparently many of the ancient bathrooms were very luxurious, just as they are today. Childress also shares how the Egyptians knew how to make drains of copper — one found was 450 yards long. The people of the ancient Indus Valley civilization are credited with the world's first urban sanitation system. Their sewage and drainage systems were far more advanced than contemporary sites in the Middle East and even

Aqueduct in an archaeological dig, Israel.

Ancient Harrapa, Pakistan – The Indus Valley Civilization is known for cities displaying planned layouts, wide streets, water management, and sanitation: reservoirs, drains, personal and public wells and bathing platforms.

Aqueduct in the desert in Yazd, Iran.

Right: Aqueduct, Inca ruins, Machu Picchu, Peru, Andes.

more efficient than those used in India today. There are even a couple of bigger projects, such as the Sri Lankan dam at Maduru Oya and the dam at Marib in Yemen. Also, many ancient civilizations built terraces on the sides of hills and mountains to increase the amount of cropland available and regulate water from the mountain springs or reservoirs. This was and is popular in Asia where complex and regimented social structures are imperative in order for the system to work. In South America, the Incas are also known for their beautiful terraced hillsides. Ancient man knew how to use water and how to keep himself clean and sanitary. Some say, "The mark of any advanced civilization is the level of their sanitation and plumbing."

Ancient man's advanced technology can be clearly seen in what they have left behind. Whether it be accurate time-keeping and calendars or the megalithic structures that have no explanation, it is obvious that the secular mindset of the modern world has greatly underestimated the people of the past.