

Year-End Shifts

*By Susan Abbott Gidel
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(All times Eastern)

The astrological focus in December is in the last half of the month, when three significant planetary shifts occur.

First up is that Venus turns retrograde in motion on Sunday, December 19 and lasts until January 29. This is time to review financial matters, and often is bearish for stocks. (See more details below.)

Second is the final of three exact square (90-degree) aspects between Saturn and Uranus on Christmas Eve, December 24. This connection has been the transit of the year, bringing up issues of sticking with the status quo (Saturn) vs. making change (Uranus), all of which is simply the prelude to 2022's transit of the year—Pluto conjunct the natal Pluto of the United States that emphasizes revolutionary transformation.

The final pass of any transit typically brings resolution, so perhaps there will be signs of status quo/change closure as the year ends. Still, be aware that Saturn and Uranus will be very close (but not exact) to this square again in October 2022, so the status quo vs. change discussions could continue until then. (And, probably will given the USA's Pluto return with three exact hits in 2022.)

Finally, Jupiter enters its ruling sign of Pisces on December 28, initiating a year of inspiration and creativity. It also could provide support to industries associated with Pisces, including pharmaceuticals, oil, and anything to do with water.

Monday, December 20 as Top Red Letter Trading Day

This is the first trading day after Venus turns retrograde in motion on Sunday, which can mark the start to a bearish trend in the stock market. It also is two days after a Full Moon and one day before the winter solstice, another of W.D. Gann's "change of trend" days. What's more, the Moon and Mercury are egging on Uranus to create big financial surprises.

But, what puts this day over the top as the month's Top Red Letter Trading Day are the many connections from planets in the sky to the S&P 500 first-trade horoscope that reinforce the idea of a market high:

- Saturn aligned with the S&P midheaven indicates public restriction
- Mars aligned with the S&P descendant indicates action from outside interests
- Sun and Jupiter each connected with the S&P Pluto indicates a peak of power

Also note that this is three trading days after my top pick for tapering news from the Fed that could put in a stock market top—Wednesday, December 15. For a refresher on the astrology of the Fed and tapering, please revisit my blog post from late August.

<https://susangidel.com/astrological-clues-to-fed-tapering/>

Money Planet Venus Still Out-of-Bounds, then Retrograde

Venus, the planet that rules money, began its out-of-bounds behavior on October 10 and will continue that way through December 7. When planets are out-of-bounds, they feel spunky and free to kick up their heels and go rogue, so remain on alert for unexpected financial behavior the first week of December.

On December 19, Venus turns retrograde in motion, which could put pressure on the stock market through January 29. Since 2007, Venus retrograde has occurred nine times. The S&P 500 declined during three of these retrograde periods—in 2007 (-11.9%), 2015 (-12.4%) and 2017 (-3%).

Often the market rallies when Venus retrograde joins an already retrograde Jupiter retrograde, which occurred in 2010 (+8.5%), 2013-14 (+4.4%), and 2020 (+17%), but is not the case this year. The S&P 500 also rallied, up 31.3%, during the 2009 Venus retrograde period, even though Jupiter was not involved. In 2012, the market went sideways while Venus was retrograde.

This month's dates of astrological note include:

December 1	Neptune in Pisces direct in motion—ideas begin to manifest
December 4	New Moon/Solar Eclipse in Sagittarius—good news
December 13	Mars enters Sagittarius—exploration boundaries expand
December 13	Mercury enters Capricorn—time to cut the deal
December 18	Full Moon in Gemini—spotlight on trade, communications
December 19	Venus in Capricorn retrograde—review money matters
December 21	Sun enters Capricorn—winter solstice light increases
December 28	Jupiter enters Pisces—home again to imagine

This month's dates of potential highs or lows, based on transits to first-trade horoscopes:

Bitcoin (BTC)	High—December 9, December 30 Low—December 23
Crude Oil (CL)	High—December 1, December 13

Low—December 6, December 23

Euro FX (Euro) High—December 16, December 30
Low—December 6, December 23

Gold (GC) High—December 6, December 28
Low—December 22

Nasdaq-100 (NDX) High—December 16
Low—December 8, December 21

Soybeans (ZS) High—December 22
Low—December 6, December 29

S&P 500 (SPX) High—December 16
Low—December 3, December 30

10-yr. T-note (TYN) High—December 17
Low—December 27

DECEMBER 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1 CL High	2	3 SPX Low	4
5	6 CL Low Euro Low GC High ZS Low	7	8 NDX Low	9 BTC High	10	11
12	13 CL High	14	15	16 Euro High NDX High SPX High	17 TYN High	18
19	20 Top RLTD	21 NDX Low	22 GC Low ZS High	23 BTC Low CL Low Euro Low	24 Markets closed for Christmas	25
26	27 TYN Low	28 GC High	29 ZS Low	30 BTC High Euro High SPX Low	31 Markets closed for New Year's	

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Red Letter Trading Days for December 2021

Wednesday, December 1—Ideas Gel

Just as overnight trading gets underway, the Sun and Saturn form a sextile aspect at 6:14 pm that provides opportunity for far-sighted leaders to make responsible, yet out-of-the-box decisions.

When Neptune turns direct at 8:22 am, ideas that have been percolating since its retrograde began in late June can begin to manifest. Because Neptune is in its ruling sign of Pisces, the more creative and imaginative the idea, the better.

Be aware that the New Moon/Solar Eclipse in Sagittarius on Saturday, December 4 is aligned with the Ascendant of a widely used horoscope for the United States, set for July 4, 1776. The eclipse, which portends joyful, good news, could tap into the country's natural optimism.

Based on how planets in the sky are connecting to the first-trade horoscope charts of the following markets, they could make the following highs or lows:

- **Crude Oil High on Wednesday, December 1**—Basis the January contract, the currently volatile crude oil prices could find resistance at \$68.08 per barrel, \$71.68 or \$75.28.
- **S&P 500 Low on Friday, December 3**—The next major support from planetary price conversion levels is 4450.

Wednesday's reports include:

Tuesday 7:00 pm Korea External Trade
Tuesday 7:30 pm Korea PMI Manufacturing
Tuesday 7:30 pm Japan PMI Manufacturing
12:00 am India PMI Manufacturing
2:30 am Switzerland CPI
4:30 am UK PMI Manufacturing final
10:00 am US ISM Manufacturing
10:30 am US EIA Petroleum Status

Next newsletter on Sunday, December 5

Monday, December 6—Deep Power

Power is in the air on Monday, December 6 with Mars and Pluto able to work together if they choose as they make a sextile aspect at 6:41 am. Mars is strong in Scorpio, the sign it co-rules with Pluto, so has the chops to dig deeper than normal to find power.

Meanwhile, Pluto in Capricorn remains intent on using power to transform business and government.

The following markets could make highs or lows based on how planets in the sky are connecting with their first-trade horoscope charts:

- **Crude Oil Low**—In the January contract, watch for three potential support levels from planetary price conversions: (1) \$65.23 per barrel; (2) end-of-cycle \$64.48; and (3) \$63.83.
- **Euro FX High**—Look for resistance in the December contract at two close-together planetary price conversion levels—1.136 and 1.138.
- **Gold High**—If February gold decisively clears \$1783 per oz. (Friday's close was \$1783.90), then \$1868 is the next higher planetary price conversion level that could provide resistance.
- **Soybeans Low**—In January beans, look for planetary price conversion support at \$12.47 per bu., then \$12.33-\$12.35.

No reports of significance on Monday.

Next newsletter on Monday, December 6

Tuesday, December 7—Confusion

The truth could be elusive on Tuesday, December 7 as Mercury squares Neptune at 10:16 am. Mercury is in Sagittarius, the sign where it tends to blurt out the truth, especially as it is out-of-bounds and uncontrollable. Neptune, king of confusion and fogginess is strong in its ruling sign of Pisces. While square to one another, mental confusion will be easy.

Tuesday's reports include:

Monday 6:30 pm Japan Household Spending
Monday 10:30 pm Australia RBA announcement
8:30 am US International Trade in Goods and Services
8:30 am Canada Merchandise Trade

Next newsletter on Tuesday, December 7

Wednesday, December 8—Expansion Kinks

Even a strong Mars in its ruling sign of Scorpio could run into some issues in its expansion plans as it squares off against Jupiter at 1:21 am. There's not much negotiating going on as both planets are in fixed signs and committed to their respective stances.

These two markets could make turns on Wednesday based on how planets in the sky are connecting with their first-trade horoscopes:

- **Nasdaq-100 Low on Wednesday, December 8**—On a setback, look for support from planetary price conversion levels at 16,199 and 15,839.
- **Bitcoin High on Thursday, December 9**—On the upside, resistance from planetary price conversion levels could appear at \$55,250 or \$55,910.

Wednesday's reports include:

Tuesday 6:50 pm Japan GDP
TBD India Reserve Bank of India announcement
10:00 am Canada Bank of Canada announcement
10:30 am US EIA Petroleum Status

Next newsletter on Sunday, December 12

Monday, December 13—Modest Expectations

Two planets change signs on Monday, December 13, but overlap in the same one for trading through the lunch hour. Mars goes first when it enters Sagittarius at 4:53 am, ready to charge forward with expanding the boundaries of exploration. Second is Mercury, which also is in Sagittarius until it enters Capricorn at 12:52 pm. While together in Sagittarius, trading volume could be fast and furious, particularly from international traders or in international markets.

Once Mercury has moved into Capricorn, trading could turn more serious and limited, with expectations moderated. However, Mercury is out-of-bounds, so misbehaving on any front is to be expected.

The FOMC meets on Tuesday and Wednesday this week, and even though there are no active planetary aspects in the sky on either day, there could be market impact based on its March 2000 bond-buying announcement horoscope and how the planets connect to it. Indeed, December 15 was my top pick among several days into March 2022 that tapering news could put a top in the stock market. Please review my late-August blog post about the Fed's tapering plans for all the details.

[https://susangidel.com/astrological-clues-to-fed-tapering /](https://susangidel.com/astrological-clues-to-fed-tapering/)

This is a quiet week on the planetary front. Our next newsletter will be a week from today. However, the planets in the sky are connecting with the following markets in ways that could produce turnarounds on these days:

- **Crude Oil High on Monday, December 13**—The next two important planetary price conversion levels are \$72.43 per barrel and \$74.63, basis February.
- **Euro FX High on Thursday, December 16**—In the March contract, the closest resistance level from planetary price conversions is 1.1380; the next higher is 1.1620.
- **Nasdaq-100 High on Thursday, December 16**—Watch as the index approaches planetary price conversion resistance at 16,456-16,472. The next end-of-cycle conversion level is 16,559.
- **Soybeans High on Thursday, December 16**—In March soybeans, the \$12.98 per bu. planetary price conversion level is a significant hurdle. If prices clear it, then \$13.10 and \$13.38 are the next levels to watch for resistance.

- **10-yr. T-note High on Friday, December 17**—The next potential resistance in the March contract, based on planetary price conversion levels, is 132-03.

Monday's reports include:

Sunday 6:50 pm Japan Tankan

Next newsletter on Sunday, December 19

-Monday, December 20—Money Shakeups

Monday, December 20 is this month's Top Red Letter Trading Day because of the significant astrological events that occurred over the weekend. The primary event was that Venus, the planet that rules money, turned retrograde in motion on Sunday morning and will remain so through January 28. Venus retrograde can be bearish for the stock market. Because it is in the sign of Capricorn, it also is a good time to review all serious money matters and long-term investments.

Also over the weekend was the Full Moon in Gemini on Saturday night that put a spotlight on communications and commerce, so weekend gift-buying could have been strong. On Sunday night, the Sun and Jupiter take the opportunity for big fun.

On Monday, watch for surprising movement and volatility going into the close because Mercury makes an easy trine with trickster Uranus at 3:18 pm. Mercury, which rules trading and stock indexes, is in the restrictive sign of Capricorn; it also is out-of-bounds, so could behave erratically. What's more, the transiting Moon (market emotions) is opposite Mercury and also out-of-bounds, creating a double whammy of the unexpected.

Monday's reports include:

Sunday 4:45 pm New Zealand Merchandise Trade

Next newsletter on Monday, December 20

Tuesday, December 21—Winter Change-Up

The winter solstice occurs at 10:59 am when the Sun enters the sign of Capricorn. This solstice is arguably the most important season change of the year because the Sun will now begin to deliver more light to the Earth each day, so akin to the importance of a New Moon in terms of new beginnings. As such, the winter solstice, is one of the 10 days each year that legendary trader W.D. Gann watched for a change of trend.

In addition to the solstice, the Moon in Cancer is opposite both Venus (retrograde) and Pluto in the sign of Capricorn. This could create an extreme emotional reaction in the markets because the Moon is out-of-bounds (so unpredictable) and connected to a pair of planets that often indicate big money (up or down) when they are together.

Note that Saturn is square Uranus for the third and final time this year on Friday, when markets are closed. This connection has been the year's main astrological event and indicates economic tension between staying the course (Saturn) and making change (Uranus). Although this is their last exact aspect, they will both be in the same degree in October 2022, when the conversation around these topics could reprise.

Holiday Trading Hours

- NYSE is closed on Friday, December 24.
- CME Globex markets close at their regular times on December 23 and reopen at their regular times on Sunday, December 26.

The following markets could make highs or lows through end-of-week trading based on how planets in the sky are connecting with their first-trade horoscope charts:

- **Nasdaq-100 Low on Tuesday, December 21**—Monday's low was just 7 points above a planetary price conversion level at 15,501. If that breaks, the prior end-of-cycle level stands at 15,479, just below the December 3 low of 15,543. An important level below that one is 15,357.
- **Gold Low on Wednesday, December 22**—In February gold, watch \$1783 per oz. as potential support, then \$1761.
- **Soybeans High on Wednesday, December 22**—If March beans surpass their significant planetary price conversion level resistance at \$12.98 per bu., then the next two levels higher are \$13.10 and \$13.38.
- **Bitcoin Low on Thursday, December 23**—Watch the planetary price conversion level of \$45,110 as potential support; one level lower is \$41,510.
- **Crude Oil Low on Thursday, December 23**—If Monday's low of \$66.12 per barrel in the February contract fails to hold, look for support at the next lower significant planetary price conversion level of \$65.23. From resistance in the \$69-\$70 range, prices could find support at significant conversion levels of \$68.83, \$68.08 or \$67.43.
- **Euro FX Low on Thursday, December 23**—In the March contract, look for support at the 1.1170 planetary price conversion level.

Tuesday's reports include:

8:30 am Canada Retail Sales

Next newsletter on Sunday, December 26

Monday, December 27—Holiday Hangover

Watch out for holiday weekend hangovers on Monday, December 27. On Saturday, Venus and Pluto were conjunct in Capricorn for the second of three times, indicating powerful money is in the air. Indeed, the S&P 500 closed at record highs on both December 10 (one day before the first pass) and on December 23 (two days before the second pass). The third and final conjunction will be on March 3.

On Sunday, messages could be confusing, putting all of us in a dreamy state. Mercury the communications planet is working well with Neptune, the planet of confusion, in late afternoon. What's more, there's little controlling communications, thoughts or trading (all Mercury ruled) because the planet is out-of-bounds and behaving not as expected.

These two markets could make turns on Monday or Tuesday, based on how planets in the sky are connecting to their first-trade horoscope charts:

- **10-yr. T-note Low on Monday, December 27**—March T-notes are in a no-man's land of planetary price conversion levels between 129-04 on the downside and 132-03 on the upside.
- **Gold High on Tuesday, December 28**—In February gold, the next upside planetary price conversion level is \$1868 per oz. Downside support is at the end-of-cycle \$1783.

No reports of significance on Monday.

Next newsletter on Tuesday, December 28

Wednesday, December 29—Hopeful

Two big planetary events occur during the overnight trading hours for Wednesday, December 29. First, Jupiter enters Pisces at 11:09 pm Tuesday, where it stays through May 10, 2022. After retrograding back into Aquarius, Jupiter returns to Pisces again from October 29-December 6, 2022.

Second, Mercury conjoins Venus (retrograde) in Capricorn at 5:27 am. With the money planet appearing to move backwards, it is always a good time to review finances. With Mercury, ruler of trading, conjunct it would be wise to review trading orders carefully for this entire trading week.

Jupiter in Pisces

It's been 12 years since Jupiter was in its ruling sign of Pisces, where it is especially strong, hopeful and philosophical. In 2010, during its last visit, Jupiter added upside oomph to the S&P 500 while it was in the 1000-1200 range after the March 2009 low. Gold was in a similar range of \$1000-\$1200 per oz., and rallying. Bitcoin was barely a year old, but Bitcoin Pizza Day (May 22, 2010) occurred while Jupiter was in Pisces, when 10,000 bitcoin bought two pizzas valued at \$25 (\$0.0025 per bitcoin); by July, bitcoin had reached \$0.08 each. Ah, those were the days.

In general, Jupiter in Pisces could be bullish for Pisces-ruled industries, including oil, pharmaceuticals and water. In the commodity markets, Pisces is associated with the crude oil, soybean oil and inflation. However, Jupiter's nature is to expand, so that could mean that supplies of crude oil and soybean oil expand (which could be bearish on price); also that inflation could rise.

Look for March Soybeans to make a low on Wednesday based on how transiting planets are connecting to its first-trade horoscope. Support could appear at the planetary price conversion levels of \$13.68 per bu., then \$13.10.

Wednesday's reports include:

8:30 am US International Trade in Goods (advance)

10:30 am US EIA Petroleum Status

Next newsletter on Wednesday, December 29

Thursday, December 30—Year-End Push

Year-end trading gets a final push starting with the overnight trading session on Wednesday, when Mars and Saturn make a cooperative aspect at 7:22 pm. These two planets typically can be a go/stop (Mars/Saturn) energy, but in this case, they can see how working together moves things along.

Early Thursday, at 4:54 am, Mercury and Pluto are conjunct in Capricorn to create powerful messages and communications all day.

The following markets could make turns on Thursday based on how planets in the sky are connecting with their first-trade horoscope charts:

- **Bitcoin High**—Watch three planetary price conversion levels for potential resistance--\$48,710, then \$50,100 and \$51,650.
- **Euro FX High**—The March contract might have hit its high on Wednesday as it traded through two planetary price conversion levels at 1.1360 and 1.1380. The next level higher is 1.1620.
- **S&P 500 Low**—Tuesday's record high of 4807.02 was just 3 points shy of a significant planetary price conversion level at 4810. The next significant level lower is 4696, but watch for interim support at 4744 and 4731.

The NYSE will be open on Friday, December 31. CME Globex markets will trade at their regular hours that day as well. *I mistakenly noted that the markets would be closed that day in the calendar provided in the month's overview newsletter. My apologies.*

Thursday's reports include:

Wednesday 6:00 pm Korea Industrial Production

Wednesday 6:00 pm Korea Retail Sales

8:30 am US Jobless Claims

Next newsletter for January overview on Saturday, January 1



Source: Barchart.com

November Review – Gann Wins the Prize

W.D. Gann wins the prize for projecting the “change in trend” for U.S. stocks in November. Two of the 10 days the legendary trader watched each year for trend shifts occur in November and each one marked a stock market high this year.

On November 8, the midpoint between the fall equinox and winter solstice, the Dow Jones Industrial Average set a record high at 36,565.73. By month’s end, it had fallen nearly 6%, closing out the month at 34,483.

Also note that November 5, the trading day prior to November 8, is two days after the FOMC meeting and the day I highlighted previously in a blog post as holding the potential for Fed tapering and a high in the S&P 500.

<https://susangidel.com/astrological-clues-to-fed-tapering/>

On November 22, when the astrological year is two-thirds complete, the S&P 500 and Nasdaq-100 set record highs on what technicians call a key-reversal (outside the previous day’s range with a lower close). The S&P 500 high was 4743.83 (vs. its first-trade Ascendant conversion level of 4744); it closed out November down 3.7% at 4567.00. The Nasdaq-100 record high was 16,764.86 (vs. its first-trade Descendant conversion level of 16,761); it closed out November down 3.8% at 16,135.92.

My pick for November’s Top Red Letter Trading Day was Friday, November 19, the trading day before the all-time highs in the S&P 500 and Nasdaq-100. That is when a full moon eclipse was shedding light on financial issues while at the same time Venus and Uranus could create financial surprises.

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