

## Signs In the Heavens

### Intro

1. Believers must be prepared and the voice of truth in our generation.
2. Mt.24.37–39, “As it was in the days of Noah”. Just like in Noah’s day so shall it be during the end time generation. In the end times, people will reject the truth and pursue lies – 1 Tim.4.1; 2 Tim.4.3f. People will disregard moral truth of their conscience and dismiss the God’s objective truth as it is lived and taught to them.
3. We can’t be like Lot who compromised... .
4. 3 Type of End Time believers – Overwhelmed Christians, Unaware Christians, and On Alert Christians.
5. We need to be ready so we can move in this rather than be moved by this.

### The Purpose of Signs

1. Matt.16.1–4: We are supposed to understand the signs. God gives us signs so that we can understand a truth. Jesus was a sign to everyone, but they missed him. Just b/c you can see a sign doesn’t mean you will believe a sign. They doubted b/c of hardness of heart.
2. Def of sign – something that points to a greater truth. Ill with highway sign pointing to an intersection.
3. Matt.11.20–24: These miracles were signs which were intended to get the people to change their course.
  - a. Such was the case in John 4.43–54.
4. Heb.2.4 – Signs and wonders given to confirm the message of Jesus.
5. Healings, deliverances, angelic appearances, the star over Bethlehem were signs pointing to a greater reality. God sends signs to demonstrate His love, to confirm His message and to give us time to repent.

Luke 21.25–28

1. These will be evident. They are seen by people and will cause massive fear. Will this be literal shaking of the heavens & earth or is it referring to a spiritual shaking? It seems best to understand them literally since we understand what preceded this text as literal. There will be the literal shaking of the sun, moon, stars and in the heavens. In other words, there are great signs in the sky.
2. It won't be missed. People will see these signs and great fear will grip the earth. It won't be unnoticed and momentary.
  - a. The Tsunami of 2004 is a clear sign (L.21.25b) - its impact on people's response to tsunami warnings today. Image
3. Fear will be the natural response to both the earthly & heavenly signs. People will be in anguish - stressed & crushed - and perplexed - lost his way.

#### Acts 2.17-21

1. The Holy Spirit had been given and it was accompanied by a loud sound like a mighty windstorm. Peter is giving them some context to understand the manifestation of this strange activity.
2. We haven't seen the full expression of this and it is awaiting the end time outpouring of God's Spirit on everyone. The Day of Pentecost in Acts 2 was the foretaste of something greater both spiritually and naturally that would happen. The closer we are to the return of the Lord the greater the heavenly signs will be.

#### Signs in the Heavens

1. Psalm 19.1-4
2. Romans 1.18 - 20
3. Acts 2.2 - sound from Heaven like a mighty, rushing wind.
4. Luke 23 - Darkness came over Jerusalem from 12 - 3 PM just before Jesus died.
5. Mt.2.1-12: The Wise Men who studied the stars. They sought to understand and then they traveled to see it for themselves. They are illustrative of the type of people we should be. Always looking & seeking to make sense of the signs.

6. 2 Ki.20 – the shadow moving back a period of time. Confirmed God’s promise to heal Hezekiah & add 15 years to his life.
7. Joshua 10 – Destruction of enemy with hailstones & stopping the earth’s orbit.
8. Ex.19 – God coming with a great cloud, fire and with a loud trumpet blast on Mt.Sinai.
9. Ex.13 – God led them by a pillar of fire at night & a cloud by the day.
10. Ex.9 – Plague of hail & lightening & Ex.10 – Plague of darkness
11. Gen.9 – The sign of God’s covenant not to destroy the earth by water is the rainbow in the clouds.
12. Conclusion – There were and still are heavenly signs, but most do not understand them. Signs point to a deeper truth.

#### Historic, Current & Future Signs

- Sept.1, 1859 – largest recorded solar flare
- Eye of God; Cross in a Star
- New cloud formation
- Comet McNaught
- Comet Schwassmann–Wachmann
- Jupiter, Venus & Moon Convergence – Fall’08
- In my opinion, none of these fit the category of what is described in Luke 21 & Acts 2, but they do cause us to reflect upon the Lord.
- Solar Eclipses on Av 1 in 2008, 2009, 2010. This is during the 21 days of mourning which start on 19<sup>th</sup> of Tammuz to 9<sup>th</sup> of Av. This is the period when the walls were breached by the Babylonians and the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Temples were burned to the ground (586 BC & 70 AD).
- 2014/2015 – see handout. Solar eclipse – the sun is darkened; Lunar Eclipse – the moon turns to blood.
- God gives us astronomical signs which should cause us to turn to the Lord.

#### False Signs

1. 2 Thes.2.9-10

2. Rev.13.13-14
3. The devil will copy everything God does with the hopes of deceiving the nations. There will be false signs & wonders & a false gospel.
4. UFO Phenomenon & Gen.6.1-8
  - My Experience & Relative's experience.
    - There's a whole lot of misidentification with natural or man made objects.
  - Phoenix Lights & Stephenville Lights - these may be man made, but why would you fly a top secret craft areas
  - My theology would allow for life from other planets but why would you be so sneaky about it.
  - There is more to why I believe some of these crafts may have a demonic origin.
5. Alien & Human Contact
  - Approx 8 Million Americans have experienced this - at night; I've talked with two people this happened to. It left them fearful and negatively impacted them spiritually.
  - I believe these are clearly demonic encounters under the cover of extraterrestrial intelligence. Why?
    - Look at the fruit - creates fear, the message is 180 from the Bible; kidnapped; sexually assaulted; moral evil; some people feel possessed and definitely oppressed; often the encounters are passed down from one generation to the next.
    - Even Whitley Strieber - Communion/Transformation - speculated in his book based upon his interaction with them that they were demonic. Degreed, secular scholars who have studied and written on this phenomenon ask, "Why would an advanced culture, be so sadistic in its examination of humans?"
    - The big reason I know it's demonic is b/c the encounter can be stopped if you rebuke them in the "name of Jesus." Alienresistance.org - research
6. If it is going to be like Noah's day when the Lord returns, then I believe there will be an increase in the involvement between the

realm of fallen angels and humans. How that will play out I don't know, but I do believe the ufo phenomenon is part of the ploy and we must be alert.

#### Our Response to the Signs in the Sky

1. We don't fear anything or anyone but God - Luke 12.4f. The purpose of God's signs is to point people to Him in repentance. They will cause fear, but ultimately their purpose is to draw people unto Himself.
  - a. Angelic encounters are meant to point us to God & His goodness.
2. Rejoice the time of the Lord is drawing near - Luke 21.25-28
3. Study these things - 1 Pet.1.10-12. Be like the Magi who sought to understand the times in which they lived.
4. Be a sign yourself, like Noah. Demonstrate through your words and actions that you are follower of Jesus. Let people see in you hope, joy & peace.
5. Be alert - 1 Thes.5.6-8.