**“What to Do With the Signs of the Times”**

A Bible Study for the Advent of the First and Second Coming of Jesus

The Christian Theology defines “advent” as, “the coming or second coming of Christ”. This study is compiled of four lessons which may be used weekly during the Christmas advent season or anytime during the year.

What will you need to enhance this study? Answer: Prayer, a Bible, the DVD “Star of Bethlehem” by Rick Larson, “Indescribable” DVD, by Louie Giglio, and John Hagee’s book, “The Four Blood Moons”.

Why did I write this study? It truly began in the summer of 2014 during Vacation Bible School. Our theme for the day was “God’s World”. Everyone was in high spirits singing, “He’s got the whole world in His hands”, while bouncing and passing a blow up earth ball. When the music stopped and the lesson began, one boy raised his hand. “Miss Susie, I am just not sure about this creation thing”. When speaking he was moving his hand side to side to indicate that he was on the “fence” concerning this teaching. I began to realize that this eleven year old boy had been taught another lesson on how the world began, “The Big Bang Theory”. What did I learn from this? It’s time to get studying.

I started with space, our solar system. Then, thanks to U-Tube, I watched many documentaries on the Cosmos. I watched Louie Giglio’s messages about how big our God is as he compared the earth to a golf ball and everything else in proportion to that golf ball. My mind was stretching and I was seeing God’s glory everywhere.

I read and re-read John Hagee’s book, “Four Blood Moons”. I woke up early on October 8, 2014 to view the spectacular Blood Moon, which was coinciding with the Jewish Festival of Booths.

Then, a friend let me borrow a DVD by Rick Larson, “The Star of Bethlehem”. Rick has done lots of research on the star which guided the Magi to the child Jesus. I watched the DVD at least seven times and read and re-read his narrative of the DVD which is on his website.

So, as I am studying and becoming aware of so many “signs”, I feel like a traffic cop blowing my whistle and saying “be careful, there is a stop sign ahead”, or a weather man predicting icy roads. It was during this time, I talked with my son who is a seminary student. He said, “Mom, I am glad you are so excited about God’s word, but the real issue is what do we do with the signs and how do we live out what God is showing us”.

Thus, the birthing of this Bible Study.

Lesson One: THE “SIGNS IN THE SKY” OF JESUS BIRTH

Jean Piaget is a developmental biologist who has studied the way children think. His research concluded in the Theory of Cognitive Development. One of the stages is called the “Ego-centric” stage. During this stage of cognitive development, you believe that you are the center of the universe and everything revolves around you. During our study, we must move out of this stage. It is NOT all about you, rather it is all about HIM.

Did you know that astronomers also have had to move out of the scientific egocentric stage? It was first believed and taught that the earth was the center of the universe and our solar system. It was believed the sun revolved around the earth. What we now know is that our sun, which is a star, (and actually not a very big star in comparison to others in our Milky Way Galaxy), is the center of our solar system and that our earth revolves around the sun taking 365 days to do it. And our solar system is just one of billions of solar systems within our Milky Way Galaxy which is just one of billions of galaxies in the universe. Feeling rather small? Louie Giglio says it this way, “I am not trying to make you ‘feel’ small, I am telling you that you ‘are’ small”.

Additionally, Louie and I agree that the Big Bang Theory of Creation is not at odds with the Creation as we read in Genesis. Can you even imagine the immense happenings when God opened His mouth and said, “let there be light”. God Is. He is the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega. He spoke and we existed. As hard as we try, we just can’t fathom the magnitude of God. So, some give up and try to make theories within their egocentric mind. This is called Idolatry. The word starts with an “I” and goes down a very slippery slope.

Basing this study on God as the center and the creator of all things, we can begin by trying to put our minds around His vastness. One way I do this is by thinking of the works of a wind-up clock. It is a system of gears which when wound up or started continues to work as the clock maker oversees the system. Now think of the clockmaker who knows that the clock will try to run itself and when that day comes, the clock will be ruined. So the clockmaker chooses to go ahead and make the clock and create within it a failsafe mechanism which will rebuild the clock into perfect working order. Oh, and by the way, the clockmaker knows exactly when and where the clock will try to run itself and will break. The clockmaker also knows that only He can become the mechanism to fix the broken clock, so He gives a part of Himself which He programs into the clock. He is the Mechanism which makes all things new. In His Glory, the creation obeys Him, the gears keep pace and create an ongoing poem with signs built into the clock to prove the Clockmaker is the Creator and the Savior of the great design.

Rick Larson, is a brilliant man. He is a lawyer by trade and an astronomer by God’s design. He began to study the skies, stars and planets in order to determine if the Star of Bethlehem was fact or fiction. Rick is a Christian and therefore was very concerned about being obedient to God’s word. He knew that the word speaks against astrology, which is the study of the stars and constellations in order to guide us. This is simply Idolatry. Again, it is the “I” thing. What should “I” do and when should “I” do it. It’s like the song “Aquarius”. Some of the lyrics are: “When the moon is in the 7th planet and Jupiter aligns with Mars, then peace will guide the planet…this is the dawning of the age of Aquarius”. This is astrology and this is wrong.

Then Rick studied what the Bible says about the heavens and the stars. He realized that at the very beginning in Genesis 1:14, “Let their be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years…”. So with the confirmation of “signs” in God’s word, he began to open and piece together the puzzle of the star of Bethlehem.

Rick set about using a systematic, biblical and scientific method. He used his experience in studying law as a basis for proving the existence of the star and the steadfastness of the scriptures. He was also amazed with the computer programs which could now animate the sky on any given date over any given geographical location. These programs were now making it possible to view space while still using Johannes Kepler’s (a German scientist 1571-1630) Theory of Planetary Motion. Kepler’s mathematical basis for this theory is still being used by NASA. The planets are rotating at the same mathematical basis now as they were then. This math is what made it possible for us to actually land on the moon. And here is the really amazing thing….Kepler's first use of the math was to try and determine the existence of the star of Bethlehem. However, due to errors in translation of historical records, Kepler was basing his research on when history recorded King Herod’s death. In the incorrect translation, it read that Herod died in 4 B.C., rather than new research which points to his death in 1 BC. Therefore, even though the math was right the date was wrong and he was never able to prove the existence of the star.

Now, using the correct date of King Herod’s death as 1 B.C., Rick Larson began searching the skies on his animated computer program and watching with amazement as his computer screen began to unfold the mysteries of the night skies during the time of Jesus’ birth.

Rick was very cautious, after all he was not a trained astronomer, and he didn’t want to jump to conclusions. So, he set out to make calculated assumptions and then proving the assumptions by using a rigorous nine point determination. So when he made the assumption, again using biblical accounts in Matthew about the Magi and other clues found in those age old scriptures, he put his theory to the test.

His belief and current research makes an assumption that Jupiter, and its conjunction with the star Regulus and Venus, proves that the Star of Bethlehem truly existed, just as the scripture reveals.

I will write, in my simplified words, a description of his findings. If you need a more detailed scientific explanation, please buy his book, or look on U-Tube, or Google: Frederick Larson, The Star of Bethlehem.

When Mary said, “Let it be done to me according to your will”, Luke 1:38, and the Holy Spirit overshadowed her and she conceived the holy Jesus, God’s poetic “starry dance”,(Rick Larson), had begun. The night skies put Jupiter in a close conjunction with the star Regulus. Jupiter has been called the King Planet and Regulus is the King Star. Rick programmed the software to show the night skies over Babylon in 2 BC. He watched with amazement as the computer program calculated the math of planetary motion to reveal Jupiter rising in the east and move around the star Regulus and come into very close conjunction with Regulus.   
The animated screen revealed that the planet and the star come so close to one another that it was almost like a figure eight. But with the naked eye or using telescopic tools used in Jesus time, the magi would have seen it as one bright star. Now for a quick interlude……..

**Jupiter** is the largest “planet” in our solar system, and fifth from the sun. It is considered a planet because of it’s size. It is really too small to be called a star, (Think in terms of if the earth’s diameter is 1, then Jupiter’s diameter would be 10 and the Sun’s diameter would be 100). Jupiter is the third-brightest object in the night sky after the Moon and Venus. Jupiter is called a “gas” giant because it is made up of gases and not rock like most planets. However, unlike a fixed star it roams like a planet. **Regulus** is the brightest star in the constellation Leo and lies approximately 79 light years from Earth. And oh, by the way, a light year is the distance it takes for light to travel in one year. Light is the fastest traveling thing in space. It travels 186,282 miles per second and travels 6 trillion miles in one year. So if Regulus is 79 light years from Earth it is 79 times 6 trillion miles away. You do the math, I don’t even know how to write the number trillion. All I can think of is the children’s song, “My God is so big, so big and so mighty, there’s nothing my God cannot do”.

So, if God put His beautiful poetry in the sky as a sign of the conception of the King of Kings, do you think He recognizes the beginning of life at conception? Oh, God, forgive me, “I have sinned in my ignorance”, Acts 3:17 and “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do”, Luke 23:34. Thank you Jesus for everything you did for me and taught me and how you continue to love me.

Okay, it is nine months before Jesus birth and some people are noticing the signs in the sky. Notably, these are the Magi. They come from the east. Rick Larson tells us that there was a school in the east that was held in high esteem. It was not a school of astrology but of the serious study of astronomy. He believes the Magi came from this school of learning. What is east of Jerusalem and Bethlehem? The countries of Babylon and Persia are eastern nations. Rick believes that the Magi could be descendants of Daniel, whose ancestors might have remained in Babylon and who would have the scrolls of Micah whose prophecy was lining up with the heavenly signs. Others think that they were not of Jewish ancestry because of the scripture, “He came to His own, and His own knew Him not”, John 1:10. Additionally, they could have been Jews by decision when Queen Ester helped to save her people in Persia. “Then many chose to become Jewish.” Ester 8:17

However, we do know they came from the east and brought three gifts; gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Were there just three, maybe not, could have been more, but the scriptures do tell of the three gifts. Rick Larson believes when the Magi first noticed the conjunction of Jupiter and Regulus around September 3 BC. They were alerted, but chose to stay in position to continue to study the signs in the sky.

The conjunction of Jupiter and Regulus caught the Magus full attention. Can you just picture these astronomers as they watched and pondered this amazing event? However, nothing compared to their amazement as they watched Jupiter wander and begin its “royal dance” around Regulus. Jupiter actually “crowned” Regulus three times within the constellation of Leo.

The following is an excerpt from Rick Larsen’s “Star of Bethlehem”. “Jupiter glides slowly past Regulus about every 12 years. Let’s assume our magus enjoyed a 50 year career, say from age 20 to age 70. We don’t know how old the Magi were, but if our man was in the second half of his career, he might have seen such a pass (Jupiter around Regulus), two or three times before. Jupiter’s orbit wobbles relative to Regulus, so not every conjunction is as close as the one he saw in 3 B.C. Perhaps our magus recorded this event with some interest, but it is hard to imagine great excitement. Not from this alone. But of course, there is more.

Wandering stars, like Jupiter, exhibit another, stranger motion. Periodically, they appear to reverse course and move backward through the other stars. This may seem odd, but the reason is simple enough: we watch the planets from a moving platform – Earth – hurtling around the Sun in its own orbit. When you pass a car on the freeway, it appears to go backward as it drops behind. For similar reasons, when the Earth in its orbit swings past another planet, that planet appears to move backward against the starry field. Astronomers call this optical effect **retrograde motion**.

In 3/2 B.C. Jupiter’s retrograde wandering and crowning Regulus within the constellation of Leo (a lion figure representing Judah) would have called for our magus’ full attention. After Jupiter and Regulus had their kingly encounter, Jupiter continued on its path through the star field. But then it entered retrograde. It “changed its mind” and headed back to Regulus for a second conjunction. After this second pass it reversed course again for yet a third rendezvous with Regulus, a triple conjunction. A triple pass like this is more rare. Over a period of months, our watching magus would have seen the Planet of Kings dance out a halo above the Star of Kings, a coronation.”

Then Rick programmed the software for nine months later, (around the time of Jesus birth), over the skies of Jerusalem and Bethlehem, (which is just five miles south of Jerusalem) and he was astonished. Now Jupiter is in such close conjunction with Venus that together the two planets looked as one. Jupiter, the king planet and Venus, the mother planet, look as one and are the brightest “star” anyone had ever seen.

“No one alive had ever seen such a conjunction. If the Magi only began their travel plans in September 3 BC, when they saw this sight nine months later, someone may have shouted “What are we waiting for? Mount up!” At the end of their travel, which may have taken weeks or months, these experts arrived in Jerusalem. They told their tale, and “all Jerusalem was disturbed.” Herod wanted to know two things: when the Star had appeared, and where the baby was. The Magi presumably described the timing of events starting in September of 3 BC and continuing through June of 2BC. Herod checked with his scribes and sent the Magi to Bethlehem in search of the child with orders that they return to tell where he was.” Rick Larson, (Star of Bethlehem)

“On December 25 of 2 BC as it entered retrograde, Jupiter reached full stop in its travel through the fixed stars. Magi viewing from Jerusalem would have seen it stopped in the sky, just five miles south, above the little town of Bethlehem.” Rick Larson, (Star of Bethlehem).

* Why didn’t Herod know where the Messiah was to be born and who did he ask?
* Why do you think all of Jerusalem was disturbed when the Magi came to town.
* Why was Herod so fearful of the child Jesus and what did his fear cause him to do?

Lesson 2: MISSING THE SIGNS

“ The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it”. John1:5. This scripture separates. It separates: light from dark; good from evil; and wisdom from knowledge.

Knowledge is an accumulation of facts, whereas wisdom is a gift from God. “But as for you, Daniel, conceal these word and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase”. Daniel 12:4. “God gave Solomon wisdom…1st Kings 4:29. So a conclusion can be made that if man has lots of knowledge but has not been given the wisdom of God, he is not going to understand the signs God gives and will act out in darkness. And his use of his own knowledge without wisdom is a very lethal weapon.

This is exactly what happened to King Herod. Herod was the Roman-appointed King of Judea during the time of Jesus birth. He was a ruthless leader and would do anything to keep in favor of Rome. Though he was King of Judea, he was not completely Jewish. He was born to an Idumean, (the region of Edom, in which some say this is where the descendents of Esau lived). His father was a man named Antipater and his mother a woman named Cyprus, who was the daughter of an Arab sheik. This might explain why Herod did not know about the Star nor about the scriptures which told of Jesus birth in Bethlehem. He was living in darkness. So when the Magi reached Judea, they understood protocol and set out to pay homage to the existing king before giving worship to the new born King.

When Herod and the whole of Jerusalem were troubled with this news, he did what leaders who have only knowledge without wisdom do……he tried to fix the “problem” himself. He was deceptive to the Magi by suggesting that he too would like to worship the new born King, all the while making plans to get rid of the problem. His darkness became a lethal weapon. He would have all boy babies, two years and under killed. “A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.” Matt.2:18. However, after the Magi’s visit, God sent an angel to Joseph who appeared to him in a dream. “Get up”, he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” Joseph was a model of wisdom, trust and obedience. He was God’s hands and feet and protected his family.

Throughout history, we can highlight leaders who ruled in darkness and light. Some of those who ruled in darkness were Caesar, Napoleon, Hitler, etc.. There actually will only be One King who will rule in complete light, Jesus, who is Christ the King. Trust me; I know there have been many good leaders throughout history. God, Himself said that King David was a “man after my own heart”, however even he was not a pure light. Only Jesus will be King of Kings.

When will He come back to rule? “No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. BE ON GUARD”. Mark13: 32-33. I would encourage you to pause here and read Mark chapter 13 and Matthew chapter 24.

As we prepare for the second coming of Jesus, many people will try to figure out the “signs” themselves. Running to and fro with all the knowledge Google can spit out! I can just visualize the news stations from CNN to Al jazeera. All the Harvard scholars and the international students who are employed by these news stations will be burning the “midnight oil” trying to find out just what is happening.

Sound familiar…read about the wise and foolish virgins in Matthew 25:1-13. I would like to stop right now and give a praise report. As I am writing this Bible Study in the early morning hours, I am amazed at how the Holy Spirit is working through me. I am not saying this for my honor but for the glory of God and how he uses the dumb to confuse the one with knowledge. As I write the words, “midnight oil”, the Holy Spirit instantly illuminates my mind to the wise and foolish virgins. I never understood why the wise virgins didn’t share their oil. But now I understand that you cannot share wisdom. It is a gift God gives when an individual asks for it. The foolish virgins asked the wrong persons, they asked their peers, the five other virgins. There is no way the wise virgins could have given wisdom. It is a gift only God could give. Then, the foolish virgins went out looking for what they needed from the wrong sources. This is what it will be like in the end days. Much knowledge will be available, but it will run out and there will be no time left to gain wisdom, because the church, who could lead those foolish people to God and give the information that God is our only source, will have gone with the bridegroom in the rapture and the door will close to those left behind.

I implore you to ask for wisdom, so that you will not be deceived and that you will share with others, who may seem a lot smarter than you, that Jesus only can be their source and Savior.

God, in His infinite mercy, has given us many signs to prepare us to be ready to go with Jesus when He comes. In this study, we have focused on the signs in the sky. So let’s turn to John Hagee’s work about the Four Blood Moons.

* Read “Four Blood Moons” by John Hagee
* Continue to read and ponder Mark 13 and Matthew 24

Lesson 3: SIGNS IN THE SKY REVEALING THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS

I hope you enjoyed John Hagee’s book, The Four Blood Moons. I think of John Hagee as a watchman on the wall. His job is to let us know when he becomes aware of the events which have and are and will occur as we move through this journey of the end times. I appreciate his diligent study and his courage and integrity to speak out and live out his Christian faith. I recently watched an interview he did with Glenn Beck on TV. I marveled at his quick mind and especially his responses to rapid questions which I believe were meant to throw him a curve ball. During those rapid questions and being in front of an audience of thousands might cause a person to move off course and throw in a few particles of knowledge without wisdom. However, his trained mind and his desire to shine the glory back to God came to his rescue when answering a question, he answered incorrectly about a scripture concerning the anti-christ on a white horse. Seconds later, he recognized the error and corrected himself. Only a humble servant could have done that. I respect him and his work.

I would like to take liberty to summarize his work on the importance of the signs of the four blood moons. As with Rick Larson’s study of the Star of Bethlehem, John Hagee is looking at the signs in the sky. “God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth. And it was so. God made two great lights – the greater light to govern the day (sun) and the lesser light (moon) to govern the night. He made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good.” Genesis 1: 14-15.

And, “There will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars…Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is near”. Luke 21:25, 27-29

Previously, we studied how God used the stars to send a sign to earth to tell us how much He loved us by giving us His beloved and only Son, Jesus, to save us from our sins. Now we turn our attention to the signs of Jesus second coming. This time, God is using the moon to draw our attention to His great design.

Let’s for a moment go back to our analogy of the clockmaker. When God spoke out, “Let there be light”, Genesis 1: 3, His creation came into existence. As you remember in lesson one, He, the clockmaker, knew the when the clock would break and built into the design a failsafe mechanism, Jesus, who would make it new. The clockmaker knew exactly when and where to put Jesus into the works. Remember, this all began at the moment of creation of the clock, actually before time even began. The clockmaker used the indentations in the gears to prepare the timing of His Beloved Messiah’s coming. Indentations like Abraham, Moses, King David, the prophets, and the nation of Israel.

God has chosen the nation of Israel to carry the signs of His message. He chose to reveal Himself to them through covenants, guidance, discipline, protection, justice, mercy and love through His Beloved, Jesus. God told them in detail how to build His temple and what festivals were to be celebrated and when they were to be celebrated. He gave them the lunar calendar. The Jewish calendar is based on the moon, rather than the sun. The day begins at sundown; the climatic day of the week is Shabbat, (Sabbath), the 7th day of the week. The moon and its phases in the night sky are the timepiece for the months, and the seasons of the year are marked with special festivals. God loves his chosen people as He loves us all. “For God so loved the world, that He gave His one and only Son so that all who believed in Him would not perish but have eternal life”. John 3”16

However, although God chose this nation to be the platform on which He would present His Son, Jesus, they didn’t all recognize Him as the Mechanism, the Messiah. They and we are the broken parts of the clock.

The Clockmaker knew that some of the broken parts would continue to try to fix themselves. But for the sake of those parts who wanted to be fixed by the Mechanism, the Messiah Jesus, the clockmaker used the snooze button to give all broken parts “time” to realize that they just can’t fix themselves. And as we all know the time of the snooze button does come to an end and finally the alarm sounds.

Although John Hagee’s book, The Four Blood Moons, is beneficial to Christians, I believe it is primarily a “wake up” call to the Jews. It is interesting that John Hagee has been given a ministry to the Jewish nation by starting a ministry, “Christians United for Israel” in 2006. It is based on Genesis 12:3, “I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you”. And Psalm 122:6, “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; may they prosper who love you”.

Now, I would like to write a very brief review of the research John Hagee has done concerning the signs of the moon. As written previously, the Jewish calendar and coinciding festivals are based on the phases of the moon. Let’s first look at what makes the moon look blood red.

The following is an excerpt by Deborah Byrd in FAQ..Space, March 1, 2013. “During the lunar eclipse, you’ll see the Earth’s shadow creeping across the moon’s face. The shadow will appear dark, like a bit taken out of a cookie, until shadow completely covers the moon. Then, during the breathtaking time of totality, the shadow on the moon’s face often suddenly changes. Instead of dark, it appears red. Why? The reason stems from the air we breathe. During a total lunar eclipse, the Earth lies directly between the sun and the moon, causing the Earth to cast its shadow on the moon. If Earth didn’t have an atmosphere, then, when the moon was entirely within Earth’s shadow, the moon would appear black and invisible. Thanks to Earth’s atmosphere, what actually happens is much more subtle and beautiful. Earth’s atmosphere extends about 50 miles above Earth’s surface. During a total lunar eclipse, when the moon is submerged in Earth’s shadow, there is circular ring around Earth- the ring of our atmosphere-through which the sun’s rays pass.

Sunlight is composed of a range of frequencies. As sunlight passes through our atmosphere, the green to violet portion of the light spectrum is, essentially filtered out. This same effect, by the way, is what makes our sky blue during the day. Meanwhile, the reddish portion of the spectrum is least affected.

What’s more, when this reddish light first entered the atmosphere, it was bent (refracted) toward the Earth’s surface. It’s bent again when it exits on the other side of Earth. This double bending sends the reddish light onto the moon during a total lunar eclipse.”

So the above excerpt is the science behind the why the moon turns to a blood color. However, please understand that God uses His creation to reveal Himself….He “is” science.

Though the lunar eclipse is an amazing phenomenon as the clock of our solar system aligns planet earth with the Sun and Moon, it is spectacular when this happen in a tetrad, (four lunar eclipses in a row). And when a tetrad aligns with the Jewish festivals, it becomes conversation between the Creator and the creation, specifically the Creator’s chosen people, the Jewish Nation.

Three tetrads which align with Jewish festivals have occurred in the last 500 years. Additionally during these tetrads a solar eclipse occurred. Significant historical events took place for the nation of Israel during these occurrences. Let’s take a look.

#1 Tetrad of Blood Moons and Coinciding of Jewish Feast

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Passover | Total solar eclipse | Feast of Tabernacles | Passover | Feast of Tabernacles |
| April 2, 1493 | September 24, 1493 | September 25, 1493 | March 22, 1494 | September 15, 1494 |

Significance: The beginning of the persecution, torture and death of the Jewish people by the Roman Church’s Inquisitors. Those that had not been killed were expelled from Spain, some 200,000 Jewish people. God caused Christopher Columbus to discover America, which became a refuge for the Jews as well as others who wished to flee from religious persecution and oppression.

#2 Tetrad of Blood Moons Coinciding with Jewish Feast

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Passover | Feast of Tabernacles | Passover | Total Solar Eclipse | Feast of Tabernacles |
| April 13, 1949 | October 7, 1949 | April 2, 1950 | September 12, 1950 | September 26, 1950 |

Significance: In 1948 Israel was again declared a nation. The first permanent Israeli government took office on January 25, 1949. During the next several months, a series of four Israeli War of Independence truce agreements were signed: Agreements with Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria were signed which established Israel’s borders.

#3 Tetrad of Blood Moons Coinciding with Jewish Feasts

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Passover | Feast of Tabernacles | Total Solar Eclipse | Passover | Feast of Tabernacles |
| April 24, 1967 | October 18, 1967 | November 2, 1967 | April 13, 1968 | October 6, 1968 |

Significance: Six Day War (a war of miracles against Israel’s age old enemies). Jerusalem again became the capital of the Jewish people.

#4 Tetrad of Blood Moons Coinciding with Jewish Feasts

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Passover | Feast of Tabernacles | Total Solar Eclipse | Passover | Feast of Tabernacles |
| April 15, 2014 | October 8, 2014 | March 20, 2015 | April 4, 2015 | September 28, 2015 |

Significance: “Each of the last three series of tetrads began with a trail of tears and ended with triumph for the Jewish people. The Old Testament prophets clearly state that when the Jewish people return from their second exile, they will never be removed from their covenant homeland again. Therefore, China, Iran, Russia, and the uprising of the Arab Spring will NOT remove the people from the land or the land of Israel from the earth! God Almighty is going to defend Israel Himself, and Israel will prevail over all adversity and adversaries!” John Hagee, “The Four Blood Moons”.

“The Shemittah year occurs every seven years. In these years, God allows something to happen that gets our attention. Unlike the others, this last series of Four Blood Moons contains a Shemittah year beginning September 25, 2014 and concluding on September 13, 2015. Astoundingly, this Shemittah year will begin on the first day of the Jewish New Year (Feast of Trumpets) of 2014 and conclude on the following celebration of the Jewish New Year (Feast of Trumpets) in 2015.

Shemittah year 2014-2015

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Passover  Blood Moon | Rosh Hashanah Feast of Trumpets | Feast of Tabernacles  Blood Moon | Total Solar Eclipse | Passover  Blood Moon | Rosh Hashanah Feast of Trumpets | Feast of Tabernacles  Blood Moon |
| 4/15/14 | 9/25/14 | 10/8/14 | 3/20/15 | 4/4/15 | 9/13/15 | 9/28/15 |

Significance: “..But a Tetrad with a total solar eclipse, historically significant to Israel and falling on the Jewish Feasts with a Shemittah year that corresponds with the Feast of Trumpets (the Jewish New Year) within its series is **astronomically rare!**” John Hagee, The Four Blood Moons

The signs are everywhere. Which way do we go?

* Read the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

Lesson four: THE ONE-WAY SIGN

Have you ever found yourself going the wrong way on a one-way street? At first everything seems okay and then things start looking funny and seconds later your brain finally wakes up and sends stress hormones to your fight or flight reflex, which startles you into looking for the best and quickest way to get off this road and back onto the right way. Was there a sign? Did I miss it? That’s okay, we have all done it and we have all missed it. “For all have sinned and fallen short of the gospel. Romans 3:23

Why do you think King Herod missed it? Why have the Jewish nation missed it? Why did I miss it? Answer: I simply didn’t have the eyes to see it…..”I was blind, but now I see”, John 9:25. Who healed my blindness? It is Jesus. It always has been Jesus. He is the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the light of the world, the way, the truth and the life, and the one holding the seven stars of the seven churches. The universe is in his hands and the earth is His footstool. He knows all the stars and calls them by name. He is the clockmaker and the clock fixer.

Why didn’t we see it before - because we kept trying to fix ourselves. So, right now, before we go to one more letter or word, would you like to take off the burden of trying to fix yourself and place that burden on the one who has already freed you of it? Follow along with these or your own words. Jesus knows your heart, He created it. Jesus knows you. He was there forming you in your mother’s womb. Take a couple of deep breaths and then begin to thank Him for your life, for your breath, for holding the universe in place. Let Him take the blinders off your eyes. He loves you. He has always loved you no matter what you have done or how far you have been away from Him. He was there with you in all things. Now, admit that you are broken and as hard as you have tried you just can’t fix yourself. He has given you the free will to have Him fix you or to not fix you. It is your choice. Now, in your own words make your choice.

If you choose Jesus, your life will never be the same. You will still be in this world but you will never be “of” or controlled by this world. Jesus has placed His Holy Spirit in you to teach you, guide you, counsel you, and comfort you. You will never again be alone. He will be with you always even to the end of the age.

But when is this “end of age”? We have seen signs. God is even using Hollywood to get out prophetic movies. Who would ever have thought Nicholas Cage would have stared in a “Left Behind” movie? Remember in the introduction of this Bible Study when I shared what my son said about the importance of keeping the signs in proper perspective. I have come to realize that the only way, the one way to move through this time of increased knowledge, and deception is to keep our eyes and thoughts on the one way we know is the right way and that is Jesus. We are blessed to have recorded in the four Gospels actual words and teaching he left with us. Additionally, He gave us His personal revelation to the disciple he loved, John. His words and actions are our models of living in this crazy time of turmoil. He also gave us prophetic words about the end of the age within those Gospels and His Revelation.

I am purposely not leading you to specific scriptures. I hope you have a Bible with Jesus words in red ink so that they jump out of the page and communicate with just you.

I often think of Jesus life from His birth to death to resurrection to ascension as an outline of how we are to live and what to expect. We have been born, yet to die, promised resurrection (and God keeps all His promises), His ascension and our rapture.

I want to be like Jesus. I love how He did everything to glorify God the Father. I love how he prayed and taught us to pray…

Our Father, who are in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as It is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

So now, today, what do we do with the signs…..Jesus has already told us in Matthew 28:18-20

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Almost time to wake up….the alarm on the clock sounds like a trumpet.

“Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, The First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderes, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”…..”Yes, I am coming soon.” Rev. 22:12-16 &20