

WHAT'S YOUR BACKUP PLAN?

Text: Joel 2:30-31

Key Word: Backup

Key Thought: How Are You Preparing for Your Future?

Have you ever thought about how many backup plans there are in this world? Fighter jets are manufacturer with ejection seats in case of an emergency. This means that possibly when travelling faster than the speed of sound the cover over your head will be released while you are strapped into your seat and you will be ejected into the sky. If your just in a propelled plane you probably have a parachute to save you. Passenger planes have life preservers under their seats if your flying over water. Every flight begins with an explanation how to fasten your seat belt and attach the oxygen mask that will fall in front of you if the cabin pressure drops. Cruise lines have a mandatory safety drill before they leave the port. You have to go to your Muster station with your life jacket and listen to the instructions.

Not everyone who boards a plane, ship or gets in to drive their vehicle will suffer a life altering injury. These are just safety precautions that are put in place to protect us from harm. Think of all the safety features that offer us some comfort and assurance in case of an accident.

Now take a moment to ask yourself (not out loud) what have you planned for when you die? This will happen to 100% of us. We will all die! What then? We only have two choices that have to be made while we are still alive and able to make a clear decision.

Those of us who live in North America will remember the wake up call that happened on Sept 11 2001. **Church attendance peaked for about 6 months then it returned to its previous levels. That seemed to indicate that fear and lack of knowing what to expect doesn't create life-long changes.** I am concerned that recent hype about the solar eclipse will create the same possibility. **That's why I believe that we need to view these upcoming events through a Biblical perspective.**

I. SOLAR ECLIPSE

There are many things that are going to happen that have caught the interest of scholars and experts in many fields of study. On April 8th there will be a cosmic spectacle that newscasts around the world are fascinated by. The words of Jesus have once again been used to forecast the end of this age and time.

“Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.

11. There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven . . .

I. SOLAR ECLIPSE (Contd.)

25. There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars.

On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea.

26. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.

27. At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

28. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

Luke 21:10,11,25-28

Throughout Biblical texts we see God forewarning the nation of Israel of impending hardship. Jeremiah spoke of God's judgement coming upon wicked rulers, hirelings, false prophets. They were filling the people with false hopes and strengthening the hands of evildoers.

"Therefore," declares the Lord, "I am against the prophets who steal from one another words supposedly from me."

Jeremiah 23:30

Let me be clear, God has used the moon to parallel many warnings and events relating to the nation of Israel. The tetrad (Gr. - group of four) blood moons took place on the eve of the creation of the **state of Israel in 1948**. They also coincided with the **6 day war in 1967**. Once again on **April 15 and Oct 8 2014** as well as April 15 and September 28 2015 we had two tetrads of super blood moons with a solar eclipse in between. These lunar eclipses took place on the Jewish holy days of Passover and Sukkoth (The Feast or Festival of Booths). It was reminder for Israel to be joyful for seven days because God once again supply their needs with an abundant harvest. They are the first and last annual feasts that Israel abides by. When a solar eclipse takes place in between the lunar eclipses Bible teachers take note of the prophecy of Joel. Our last solar eclipse was in 2017.

"I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and billows of smoke.

31. The sun will be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD."

Joel 2:30,31

So the moon and sun are used by God as harbingers or precursors of things to come.

I. SOLAR ECLIPSE (Contd.)

The sun and the moon had an important purpose set in God's tapestry in the heaven above on the fourth day of creation as a celestial timetable.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years."

Genesis 1:14

Jews around the world follow a lunar calendar of only 354 days every year and add a periodic Leap Year.

Wars, rumour of wars, earthquakes throughout the world, famines and persecution along with the increase of wickedness and the decrease in love must happen more intensely and more often before the Day of Lord when the inhabitants of the world will witness the wrath of God.

II. THE SIGN OF JONAH

"A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.

40. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

Matthew 12:39,40

The second concern I have of people coming to God only during troubling times is the correlation trying to be set in place with what is being highlighted as the sign of Jonah. Maps showing the trajectory of the complete solar eclipse across the United States and Canada is adding to the uneasiness of lukewarm Christians (if there is such a category) across the world. The Book of Jonah is read in the afternoon of the Jewish most sacred day - The Day of Atonement. By comparing II Kings 14:25 the Bur-Sagale eclipse it is thought to have happened when Jonah [785-775 BC] [who lived during the time of Jeroboam II - 783-753 BC] finally obeyed God and went to Nineveh to prophesy their destruction if there was no repentance in 40 days.

"The Assyrian nation was weak and in chaos in the decade around 760 BCE... They had one earthquake (one sign of divine wrath). There was a famine from 765-758 BCE. Assyria was losing battles and losing territory to its enemies. There were domestic riots...."

Tom Hobson, chair of Biblical Studies at Morthland College

II. THE SIGN OF JONAH (Contd.)

It has been said “*that this 2024 one is going to be going through some towns named Nineveh. Nineveh, Texas. Nineveh, Missouri. Nineveh, Indiana. Nineveh, Ohio. Nineveh, Pennsylvania. Nineveh, Virginia. Nineveh, New York. And Nineveh, Nova Scotia.*”

<https://leadstories.com/hoax-alert/2024/03/fact-check-April-8-2024-total-solar-eclipse-will-not-go-through-eight-North-American-towns-named-Nineveh.html>

The three ALEF-TAV solar eclipses over the United States, include the **first Great American Eclipse** on August 21, 2017, the **second Great American Eclipse** that will happen on April 8, 2024, and the **Ring of Fire Eclipse** that happened on October 14, 2023.

The first total solar eclipse to cross the U.S. recently occurred on Elul 1 (i.e., Aug. 21, 2017), which is the day that **Yeshua began His forty-day fast**. The **Days of Elul** on the Biblical Calendar are also called the **Season of Repentance**. **Yeshua’s fast ended on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), which began His 3 ½ years of ministry on Earth.**”

<https://sapphirethroneministries.wordpress.com/2024/02/01/alef-tav-great-american-eclipses/>

It has also been said recently that the 2017 total eclipse past over seven cities in the USA called Salem. **Salem is part of the name Jerusalem and Melchizedek is called the King of Salem**. On August 21, 2017 the total solar eclipse crossed over Salem, **Oregon**; Salem, **Idaho**; Salem, **Wyoming**; Salem, **Nebraska**; Salem, **Missouri**; Salem, **Kentucky**; and Salem, **South Carolina**. It’s also been noted that when the eclipse began in Salem, Oregon, the sun was setting in Jerusalem at the exact same time. It happened in the Hebrew Year of 5777. What’s also interesting is that this eclipse exited the United States of America at the Isle of Palms in South Carolina, and South Carolina’s flag has a palm tree on it as well as what appears to be a solar eclipse.

Every total solar eclipse has a Diamond Ring Effect for about 10-15 seconds before and after the eclipse. I believe it’s a little far fetched to link it to the Bride of Christ soon being taken to heaven to be with Jesus because every eclipse has that ring.

A. Humility - Our April 8, 2024 corresponds with the Hebrew calendar of the 29th of Adar II 5784. That day of the month also coincides with the first Mitzvah (a divine command) in 1313 BC set by Moses who was instructed by God. The first day of Nisan which is the first month on their calendar begins at sundown on April 8 2024. **There are 4 themes for Jewish believers this year that we should take note of.** They are **humility** (a time to listen and not speak out) or being **impoverished** (being completely dependent upon God) or being bent over or bowing down or being **selfless**. We should only take pride in God.

II. THE SIGN OF JONAH (Contd.)

“He (God) mocks proud mockers and shows favor to the humbled and oppressed.”

Proverbs 3:34

B. Doors Opened or Closed - It comes from the 4th letter of the Hebrew language (7 Dalet or a door). It is like a pendulum that swings open but also swings closed. It can be a gateway to allow access or deny access. God will close some doors in order to open up others that give a pathway to your eternal destiny.

God always opens doors to allow us to become closer to Him. What we've built our foundation upon in the past that is moving us away from God will no longer be an option. We need to hear from God much like Jonah had to do after attempting to run away from God's will.

C. Alignment - How obedient are we to God's will? This is not about reestablishing the Hebrew Feasts in our churches. Jesus our Yeshua came to fulfill the law. It will have nothing to do with manmade additions to God's will. **It will have everything to do with drawing closer to God and having a deep desire to obey His Word.** We do not need to become present day Pharisees and become the blind leading the blind and falling into ditches.

We need to ask ourselves how the present day church is lining up with the New Testament Church. God has a strategy to guide us into HIS truth. Please understand that this will not create chaos as this new alignment takes place. God is a God of order. I am one who feels much more comfortable in systematic things but they may not be in alignment with God's order.

I have often gone to a chiropractor to get my back aligned. It requires a skilled adjustment to reset my vertebrae's into order. When that happens my nerves then send a clear signal to my brain and I notice less pain find it easier to walk and even rest at night. He is trained for seven years to study the way God made our body to function.

D. Habitation - This earth is not our final habitation. **Jesus left this world to prepare a place for us with Him.** Heaven (not the third heaven) and earth will pass away. It will be consumed by fire. The first heaven and the first earth will pass away. Thank God this is not our eternal home. The greatest part of this story is not WHERE we spend eternity it is with WHOM we spend eternity with.

Our temporal bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. We are not to quench Him. We are to live according to our previous desires. It is God who helps us overcome the works of the enemy of our soul.

II. THE SIGN OF JONAH (Contd.)

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:14

The word used for “**Dwelling**” means that He “**takes up residence**” “**He tabernacles with us.**” **We should ask ourselves what part of the tabernacle depicts our “dwelling place” with God.** It’s one thing to dwell with the people of God but it is quite another to not get stuck into one part of His presence and also to not strive to get closer to God’s holiness.

I’ve heard of some that are correlating judgement with the position of the constellation of “**Cetus the whale**” during this next eclipse. The story was created from Greek mythology. It is said to be in the part of the sky known as the sea along with Aquarius and Pisces. **God made all the stars. He is the Master of Astronomy.** Those who built the tower of Babel tried to get to heaven through their wisdom and strength. They are believed to be the ones who introduced Astrology and follow the stars instead of the star maker.

The enemy tried to close our churches, stop our worship, end our evangelism and instill us with fear. So why did I go through all of this information? It’s because **I don’t want people to use God as their Back Up Plan and forget about Him once the problem DOESN’T arrive. That reminds me of people going on a roller coaster. Their feelings come out as they coast downward and catch their breath as they once again go to another high place.**

The hands that made the stars are holding your heart!

THERE IS NO PLAN B

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Date: April 7/24

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: God of Wonders - D

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I. SOLAR ECLIPSE

Luke 21:10,11,25-28; Jeremiah 23:30; Joel 2:30,31; Genesis 1:14

II. THE SIGN OF JONAH

Matthew 12:39,40; II Kings 14:25 (the Bur-Sagale eclipse?)

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D. Habitation - Jesus left this world to prepare a place for us with Him.
John 1:14

Cetus the whale or the Creator of the stars

The hands that made the stars are holding your heart!

THERE IS NO PLAN B