

Watch! - The Celestial Signs I
by: Bob Schlenker
Christian Research Ministries

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One of the things the Lord commanded us to do is to watch. To be on guard, alert and watching, awake and not asleep. Be on guard! Be alert ! You do not know when that time will come. 34 It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. 35 "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back-whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. 36 If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. 37 What I say to you, I say to everyone:

'Watch!' Mark 13:33-37

For what do we watch? The signs of the master's coming. Where do we look for these signs? They will be evident both in heaven and on earth. The signs in the earth are being reported by many faithful watchers and the signs in the heavens by a few. It is the signs in the heavens which are my particular interest.

There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven. Luke 21:11

If you are interested in the biblical basis for the interpretation of heavenly signs, or how the true and genuine revelation of the celestial heavens is counterfeited by astrology (which is condemned by God), you may want to read one of the other publications listed at the close of this article.

In this article, there are several signs which will be presented, evidence from a source beyond the reach of man who would tamper with it if he could. The moon, sun, stars and planets were each set in motion by the Creator a long time ago and no man has altered their courses in any way. Though the signs as I will note them are diverse, their message is essentially one. Based upon the astronomical and historical facts, the range of interpretation of these signs is very limited. The correct interpretations must synchronize harmoniously with the message of the holy scriptures. As each of the celestial witnesses come forward, one after the other, a case is made very dramatically for this great trial of our time.

If you have been unaware of the heavenly signs of the times, I pray that this article will make an impact upon your life. Listen to the heavenly alarm clock - consider well its sound. The Lord is judging the world for sin. You and I are living in an urgent time, my friend. The celestial prophets are proclaiming the soon coming of the Judge of all the earth! Baruch Habar b'Shem Adonai! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

The Sign of the Red Moon

A red moon is noted in a number of scriptures relevant to the last days prior to our Lord's coming. The Apostle Peter quoted Joel 2:28-32 in his address to those present at the opening event of this present church age. In this discourse, he suggested the events at the close of the age.

And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. 29 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days. 30 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. 32 And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved; for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the LORD has said, among the survivors whom the LORD calls. Joel 2:28-32

The book of Revelation contains another significant mention of a sign of the red moon. I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, 13 and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. Revelation 6:12-13

There are a number of reasons the Moon would appear red. Viewing the moon through a very dusty or smoky sky would cause it to appear this way. Heavy volcanic activity, an asteroid impact, a nuclear explosion or some combination of these would cause such a phenomenon. In the scriptures noted above, the moon turning red is mentioned in conjunction with the sun turning black, suggesting to me that the event which will cause this unusual discoloration of the celestial bodies will be caused by an atmospheric condition.

The moon also turns red during a lunar eclipse. Although a lunar eclipse wouldn't cause the sun and stars to be darkened, it is a rare enough celestial event to be noteworthy, especially as there have been so many of late corresponding to the Holy Day calendar.

Lunar eclipse on Holy Day Schedule

- Pesach - April 15, 1995
- Sukkot - October 8, 1995
- Pesach - April 3, 1996
- Sukkot - September 27, 1997
- Purim - March 23, 1997 - As I watched this one from a favorite local viewing spot, the beautiful darkened and slightly orange-colored Moon in eclipse (all but the top, making it look like it was wearing a yalmarke) was in close proximity to the reddish planet Mars. On the other side of the sky, the comet Hale-Bopp was visible in a glorious display near its closest approach to the Earth.

Another lunar eclipse will occur September 16, 1997, about two weeks before Rosh HaShanah, or, in the middle of the time of preparation for the approaching High Holy day season that focuses upon personal reflection and repentance (teshuvah).

The Meaning of an Eclipse

According to Jewish Rabbinic tradition, an eclipse should be interpreted according to the following: (Talmud - Mas. Sukkah 29a) (The last pair are reversed in the minds of some.)

- Solar: a bad omen for idolaters
- Lunar: a bad omen for Israel
- Red Moon at Lunar eclipse: a sword is coming for the whole world
- Black Moon at Lunar eclipse: the arrows of famine are coming to the world
- Both red and black moon: both sword and famine
- In the East: specifically for those who live in the East
- In the West: specifically for those who live in the West
- In the midst of heaven: for the whole world
- At sunset: the calamity will tarry in its coming
- At dawn: the calamity is forthcoming

I neither agree nor disagree with the above interpretations, but I wanted you to see that these are assigned such meaning in the tradition of the religious leaders of Israel.

The Meaning of Comets

As with an eclipse, a comet is generally thought to be a bad omen. Is this concept valid or is it merely a superstitious tradition? You can draw your own conclusion.

Much of what was prophesied by our Lord in Matthew 24 found a fulfillment in the first century. The temple was dismantled to the extent that there was not one stone left upon another. Jerusalem was destroyed. Prior to those events, numerous warnings had been given, among them many miracles involving the temple. In conjunction with the miraculous, the comet we call Haley's made its appearance in 66 AD. Being a regular visitor every 76 years, this would not have been particularly noteworthy but for the spectacular display that year which, as the historian Josephus duly recorded, "stretched out over Jerusalem like a sword." The comet's appearance at that time may have been a similar event as that which is described in I Chronicles 21:

David looked up and saw the angel of the LORD standing between heaven and earth, with a drawn sword in his hand

extended over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell facedown. I Chronicles 21:16

The angel had been in the process of slaughtering the Israelites because of David's sin of taking a census of the people. Seventy thousand of them died. Blood is the required payment for sin. The Lord is merciful, but there is justice for those who reject the mercy he offers.

Then the LORD spoke to the angel, and he put his sword back into its sheath. I Chronicles 21:27

Wrath will be poured out upon the inhabitants of the earth. Right now, in the spring of 1997, one year after the dramatic Hyakutake, the comet Hale-Bopp stretches out over the land like a drawn sword. The hand of the angel is stayed, the judgments are withheld for yet a short season. Due warning has been given.

The Solar Eclipse Comet Sign

According to the article by Gary Stearman in the April 1997 Issue of Prophecy in the News, there have been solar eclipses during the visitation of a comet visible to the naked eye only four times in recorded history. Because a solar eclipse is the eclipsing of the Sun by the Moon, it usually occurs on the last day of a month on the Hebrew calendar - the very middle of the moon's dark phase. The first day of the month begins at sunset when the crescent of the Moon first appears after concluding its dark phase. Please observe carefully the years in which these solar eclipse comets occur.

The most recent just occurred on March 9, 1997. Visible in Mongolia, western Russia and parts of Alaska, the comet Hale-Bopp was observed during the daytime!

In 1948, the year Israel was reborn as a nation, another occurred. Known as The Eclipse Comet, C/1948 VI (1948 XI), it appeared during the solar eclipse of November 1. As reported in the Sky & Telescope magazine (January 1997), the following report was given about those who had viewed it from the plains of east Africa. "...A handful of astronomers huddled quietly around their cameras and instruments waiting for totality. When the last spark of sunlight was extinguished, an unexpected celestial spectacle was revealed. Mingling with the diaphanous coronal streamers was a comet with a long, curving tail and a head more resplendent than Jupiter. Humankind had its first glimpse of the great Eclipse Comet."

One year earlier, the comet known as The Southern Comet, 1947/XII was visible during the total solar eclipse of May 20, 1947.

The fourth and final solar eclipse comet was called Comet Wells, 1882/I. It occurred on May 17th and was viewed from Egypt. That year, 1882, is significantly the year in which a very important aliyah in the modern era occurred. Jews left Dharkov, Russia to settle Palestine - the land of their forefathers. The great dispersion of the Jewish people amongst the nations of the world found a significant reversal.

If there is a trend which can be noted in regards to the celestial sign we call a solar eclipse comet, it may perhaps be found in the following verse.

Assemble before me all the elders of your tribes and all your officials, so that I can speak these words in their hearing and call heaven and earth to testify against them. Deuteronomy 31:28

The assembling together into the land is particularly marked in the years 1882, 1947 (UN granted Israeli Jews self-determination) and 1948. Although there were other years which have been significant, these were certainly very important years involving the return of the people to the land. Heaven is bearing testimony to God's providence in these matters, is it not?

As to the solar comet eclipse of March 9, 1997, perhaps it signifies the Lord's marking of the closure of the period of assembling, for His intent and purposes. Based upon the events in Israel of late, I must say that the testimony being brought against them is very evident.

The Shoemaker-Levy Comet Sign

A few years ago, the comet called Shoemaker-Levi broke into probably 21 pieces and crashed into the planet Jupiter.

Prior to this event, astronomers speculated wildly about what effect this would have upon Jupiter and indirectly, upon the earth. The bombardment occurred over a five day period, beginning on the 9th of Av on the Hebrew Calendar. (July 16-21, 1994)

This is a day of great infamy in Israel. The Mishna, an ancient Jewish commentary declares that when the spies gave the report after returning from the promised land, the Israelites turned against Moses, Joshua and Caleb on that day. (See Numbers 14) It was on this day that both the first and second temples (Solomon's - ~587 BC and Herod's - 70 AD) were destroyed. At least five other disastrous events have been noted as occurring on this very day, which have been very hurtful specifically for the Jews.

At the time of this remarkable event, Jupiter was in the sign Libra , popularly represented as "The Scales," or, perhaps more likely, "The Light." The adjacent constellation, Scorpio, "The Scorpion" was also involved. The area of the sky where Jupiter was located during the bombardment is pictured as where "the scorpion" is attempting to seize "the light." The scorpion is probably symbolic of Lucifer, whose name means "light bearer" or his agent, the anti-messiah.

Jupiter is the King planet, symbolic of the King of Kings - the Jewish Y'shua HaMoshiach and possibly also symbolic of the 12 tribes of Israel. The exact number of pieces of the comet which slammed into Jupiter is uncertain. Either 21 or 22, I'm not sure anyone knows the exact number. Twenty-one has been noted (Don Kistler) as being the number which means "the exceeding sinfulness of sin." Twenty-two is the number of letters in the Hebrew alphabet, and also signifies Light/Making Manifest. For either number, the meanings are extremely relevant when considered along with the symbolism of the celestial bodies involved in the incident, the area of the sky in which it occurred and the history of the date of occurrence.

The comet's assault upon Jupiter in Libra beginning on the 9th of Av tells an intriguing story! Indeed, as noted in Deuteronomy 31, heaven is bearing testimony against those responsible for misleading their own people and keeping them from acknowledging their true Messiah.

The Orion Comet Sign

The Talmud records the oral tradition of the Jews (Berachoth 58b) which tells us that when a comet passes through the constellation Orion, the world would be destroyed. The Comet Hale-Bopp would appear to be this sign. It is expected to enter the region of the sky known as Orion on May 20, 1997 and exit on June 16, 1997. Should this be cause for concern? Consider what we know about this mysterious comet from the historical record...

The Noahic Flood Comet Sign

According to recent orbital calculations by astronomers, this same comet we now call Hale-Bopp passed through the inner solar system once before - about 4210 years ago. By my estimations, the Flood began 1656 years from Adam, in the Fall of the year we probably know as 2238 BC. That was 4234 years ago. If the comet appeared somewhere around 4210 years, this brings us back to around the time of the great flood. According to what is recorded in the Seder Olam Rabah, an ancient Jewish text, we may observe that a comet appeared at about the time Noah began building the ark. It was probably the comet we know now as Hale-Bopp! Do you think that this comet may have been a sign of the impending destruction of the world by water? I do!

According to our Lord's words in *Matthew 24:37*:

As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

By the sign of the rainbow, God's promise not to destroy the earth again by water still stands. However, the Earth will be destroyed by fire. What was evidently a portent of the first destruction could well be the same for the next. Consider the following prophetic declaration.

"They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation."

5 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. 6 By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. 7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. II Peter 3:4-7

The announcements made by such celestial messengers as comets are the judgments of the Highest Court and they will

be executed upon the earth and its peoples. Once again, I ask if the prophetic Jewish tradition about a comet's passing through Orion should be cause for concern? Let's just consider it one witness' testimony. I fully expect that further witnesses testifying to the forthcoming destruction will be brought forth with a concerted testimony - with ever increasing drama!

As a matter of interest, on December 24, 1997 while Chanukah begins, Earth will begin to pass through the portion of its orbit that has remnants of Comet Hale-Bopp's tail. Chanukah is called the festival of lights. Although it probably won't, (because of the action of the solar wind) should particles from the comet's tail interact with our atmosphere, there will be a festival of lights indeed!

Hale-Bopp/Hyakutake - X marks the spot!

If you think what you've been learning so far about this comet Hale-Bopp has been interesting, let me suggest to you that "you ain't seen nothin' yet"! A comparison of the paths of the comets reveals some extremely provocative information. When the paths of Hyakutake and Hale-Bopp are traced and charted, they can be seen to intersect, as my friend Bob Wadsworth discovered just this last month. The place where their paths intersect has a very significant meaning AND the interval of time between when each comet was at that intersection point is exactly one solar year - to the day!

So, they were in the same meaningful place exactly one year apart - near the variable beta star Algol in the constellation Perseus: Hyakutake on April 11, 1996 and Hale-Bopp on April 11, 1997. Of course, this might be just a coincidence, but it seems far more likely that the Lord is directing our attention with this sign to focus upon both the date and the designated location. I think its reasonable to infer that the meaning of that area of the sky and the meaning of the indicated date are related and that these are in harmony with the general signification of a comet. The doubling of the comets suggests to me that it is established and that it will happen without a long delay. (See endnote #1)

If you superimpose the charted paths of the two comets, you see that an X is formed, the paths being nearly perpendicular. The picture looks rather like the cross-hairs of a rifle scope, focused right between the eyes of what is pictured in the sky charts as the severed head of the Gorgon, Medusa. Although the Greeks called that head being held by Perseus, Medusa, the Hebrew name for it is Rosh Satan, "the head of the adversary" - Satan's head!

The paths of the comets intersect very near the beta star in Perseus, Algol, which means, "rolling round." Another name for it is Al Ghou, the evil spirit. The Starlore Handbook says that, according to tradition, Algol is the most malevolent star of the heavens. This star is a variable star, cycling every 69 hours between a brightness of the fourth magnitude and the second. According to Bullinger: "It is a most remarkable phenomenon that so many of these enemies should be characterised by variable stars!"

The perpendicular intersection of the two comet's paths near Algol also appears like a cross; a cross, right between the eyes or in the forehead of the head of Satan! That's rather ironic symbolism, isn't it? This leads us to view this area of the sky as representing the lawless one, the anti-messiah beast. The appearance of the cross on the forehead reminds me of the mark of the beast in the forehead if the followers of the beast. (See endnote #2)

The beast whose followers will have his mark in their foreheads will surely be as Satan's head in the earth. The appearance of the cross speaks also of some association with the "Christian Church," which is in keeping with the foreshadowing of the unveiling of the lawless one shown by Judas Iscariot's coming out from among the 12 disciples to betray the Messiah.

It would appear that this phenomenon of the crossing of the comet's paths is a sign given to indicate the coming of the lawless one. The coming of this wicked one will itself be a sign to the church that it is about to be gathered to the Lord. (See endnote #3) Because of this hope we have, a sign of the soon coming of the lawless one is a welcome sign, but a sobering one. Here is what the coming of the evil one will be like.

The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, *10 and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. 11 For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie 12 and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness. II Thessalonians 2:9-12*

Consider how that the people who have been involved with the Heaven's Gate group have fallen prey to this deception. Lest you think that the people who will be deceived are a particularly gullible few, consider the testimony our Lord related to us in Matthew 24:24.

For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect-if that were possible.

The implication here is that all but the elect will be deceived. That includes a majority of the people on the planet! How do we avoid being deceived? Because any counterfeit is recognized only by having a familiarity with the details of a genuine, to know the true Messiah intimately is our best preparation. To be familiar with what the Bible says about the lawless one and the signs to be given is most helpful. I have written at some length (See endnote #4) about the sign which is specifically given to signal the church when it is about to be harvested from the earth, a sign which involves the lawless one. When he is revealed in a powerful anointing and display of power and authority, this is the sign by which we will know the nearness of our departure to be with the Lord.

Let me show you how the date the two comet's paths intersected relates to this sign. One of the most important things I learned about the revealing of the lawless one is that a particular date on the Hebrew calendar is highlighted by the foreshadowing biblical types of the event. The Hebrew calendar date Nisan 13 is strongly suggested for the event to occur. Because the Hebrew calendar is a lunar-based calendar, Nisan 13 corresponds to a different date each year on our common solar-based "Gregorian" calendar. In 1996 and 97, the comet's paths crossed on the same Gregorian date, April 11, but the corresponding Hebrew dates were Nisan 22 (in 1996) and Nisan 4 (in 1997). I was curious about how closely associated April 11 and Nisan 13 might be, so I cross-checked the calendar years for a thirty year period (from 1981-2010). April 11 coincides with Nisan 13 in only one year, 2006. As a plot of all the dates would show, April 11 falls in a very random distribution across the whole month of Nisan. This approach didn't produce the fruit I thought it might. However, when I ignored the Gregorian date and simply considered the two Hebrew dates designated by the comets, (Nisan 22 and Nisan 4) I discovered that the mean date was indeed Nisan 13! ($22-4=18$. $18/2=9$. $4+9=13$. $13+9=22$.)

It is a fact that the mean Hebrew calendar date of the crossed paths of the comets is the very date given in the Bible when three (and four) distinct foreshadowing types are presented for the revealing of the lawless one. It is a fact that the comets crossed paths in the area of the sky known in Hebrew as "Rosh Satan"- the head of Satan; the nearest named star being traditionally known as the most malevolent star in the heavens. If there really are signs in the heavens and the lights in the celestial heavens are given for signs and appointed times, isn't it time we paid attention to their message?

The Prophet's Declaration

Prophetic messages have been given by some connecting the comet Hale-Bopp with the lawless one. John Leary recently brought forth a message in this regard; on Thursday, March 27, 1997:

Jesus said: "My son, this comet that you have seen tonight with your own eyes, is the sign of the Anti-Christ's coming. I have told you before to look to the skies for the signs of things to come. I have also told you that I, and not the Anti-Christ, would produce this sign of his coming. As you see the darkness come after, you will know his reign will be brief, but darkness will have its day much like the men I allowed to crucify Me for your sake." (Thanks to Dr. William Zambrano for bringing this to my attention).

Although there are many who claim to be prophets and their testimonies are diverse, we have a directive (1 Thessalonians 5:20-21) not to treat prophecies with contempt and to test everything, holding on to the good. John Leary is a Catholic. Many would automatically reject any message he brought forth on that basis alone. It's not my intent to provide a blanket endorsement of all his prophecies and neither do I condone Catholicism, but we're going to find that this very relevant prophecy passes the test!

John stated that Jesus said: "My son, this comet that you have seen tonight with your own eyes, is the sign of the Anti-Christ's coming. That would seem to be confirmed by what we have noted thus far, would it not? The date the prophecy was brought forth seems to be important because of the words Jesus was purported to have said about the comet "that you have seen tonight with your own eyes." What was so special about Thursday March 27? It was "holy Thursday," the day before the day Catholic tradition asserts was the crucifixion day, or, "Good Friday." According to the scriptural record, Jesus was crucified on the 14th of Nisan. March 27th relates to Nisan 13, then, in a manner appropriate to the prophet's own frame of reference - it is the day before the crucifixion.

In my opinion, the prophecy passes the test. As a test of authenticity of any forewarning about the revelation of the lawless one, the Nisan 13 connection continues to work, time and time again. Watch future anniversaries of Nisan 13, friends. It looms darkly on the horizon.

Being now better informed of the facts, the traditional signification of a comet as that of a bad omen seems adequately supported by the Hyakutake/Hale-Bopp concurrence, doesn't it?

Endnotes:

#1) Genesis 41:32: The reason the dream was given to Pharaoh in two forms is that the matter has been firmly decided by God, and God will do it soon.

#2) Revelation 13:16: He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead,

#3) II Thessalonians 2:1-3: Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers, 2 not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. 3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction.

#4) See The Open Scroll, Special Edition - March/April 1996

This is the end of the first of two documents comprising the article: Watch! - The Celestial Signs.

Bob Schlenker

Christian Research Ministries

PO Box 620571

Orangevale, CA 95662

Eighth Day Assembly

Watch! - The Celestial Signs 2

by: Bob Schlenker

Christian Research Ministries

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The Lunar Occultation of Al Debaran

On the very day Hale-Bopp arrived at the location Hyakutake had passed exactly one year earlier, a further celestial event occurred; the Moon occulted the bright alpha star in Taurus - Al Debaran. A Lunar occultation occurs when, as viewed from the Earth, an object is "behind" the Moon and thus obscured from view. This is one way of bringing a certain star to our attention on a particular date, thereby associating the meaning of the star with that date.

The star name Al Debaran means "the leader, or, governor." Taurus is depicted as a charging bull in the sky charts with Al Debaran (a red star) being the "red eye" of the bull or re'em. (See endnote #5) According to Bullinger, the constellation Taurus represents "Messiah, the coming Judge of all the earth," but as with many messianic symbols, there is an opposing signification as well.

Larry Pahl, who maintains a popular website shared the following with me in a recent e-mail:

Al Debaran is the eye of Taurus. Symbolically Taurus represents the juggernaut of the antiChrist. While of course the bull can symbolize a sacrificial offering such as the red heifer and thus symbolize Christ, I think its intended eschatological meaning is the driving, wasting power of the antichrist at the end of time. In the Bible the eagle represents both Christ and Satan as does the lion (your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion,...The Lion of the tribe of Judah), so it is not unusual that this bull could have both significations. The reasons I give this interpretation are put in the heavens by God. The horn of Taurus is striking the heel of Auriga, the charioteer, a plain symbol of Christ. We know that the first prophecy of the gospel in the Bible, Gen. 3:15 says that he, Satan, would bruise the Messiah's heel. Also, Orion, another plain symbol of Christ as the returning conqueror, with his club raised, is raised to strike Taurus. The name Al Debaran, meaning the leader, or governor would thus be Satan, the eye and director of the antichrist.

Nearly a month prior to the Lunar occultation of April 11, there was another of the same star as viewed from Europe and the Middle East, on March 14. Bob Wadsworth had noted at that time that "the Muslims see this as a very important sign in the heavens, of their "leader" rising up and leading them to war against Israel. This may be pure speculation, or maybe its not. Most nations of the Muslim influence have the crescent moon with the star on their national flags. Seeing such a sign in the Heavens may inspire them to take certain actions."

Certainly, the last few months have been marked by Arab aggression towards Israel, but what I have observed to be particularly fascinating is that the action Bob rather insightfully associated with the lunar occultation of Al Debaran is that of aggression towards Israel.

Taking into consideration the two signs which occurred on April 11, 1997, a single message seems to be implied. They point towards the soon appearance of a Satanic leader, an aggressor against God's people, a deceiver and an evil Messianic pretender.

Mark the date on your future calendars and watch carefully, fellow prophecy students. We should be watching for the sign for the church, learning about it and sharing what we know with anyone who will listen. We must faithfully prepare to testify when that day of evil comes that Jesus is the true Christ, Y'shua HaMashiach, and that the lawless one is an impostor, a pretender. We should be well prepared to show from scripture the foundation for our claims - and to give our lives for this cause. These remarkable celestial signs warn of a coming day, the very "day of evil" itself. We should be mentally, physically and spiritually prepared when it comes; practicing obedience, humbling ourselves before the Lord as willing subjects, repenting of every sin and honoring what is holy.

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Ephesians 6:11-13

The Sign of Argo

In the celestial heavens, there is a constellation which depicts a sailing ship (Argo) under which are found the larger and smaller Magellanic clouds, two fish (Volens and Dorado) and a net. (Reticulum) Is this familiar imagery? Compare Matthew 13:47-50 and I Thessalonians 4:17. See also the study I did on John chapter 21 in the July/August 1996 issue of The Open Scroll. The symbolism suggests a harvest of people at the close of an age. The ship is above the clouds, a heavenly vision of where the fish are caught up to from out of the water (nations).

Argo, the constellation pictured as a ship, represents "The Pilgrims safe at Home" according to E.W. Bullinger. Its name means "company of travelers." The brightest, or, alpha star is Canopus; "the possession of Him who cometh" with others of the star-names being: Markab, (returning from afar) Saphina, (the multitude or abundance) Tureis, (the possession) Asmidiska, (the released who travel) Soheil, (the desired) and Subilon. (the branch) What makes this region of the sky particularly relevant in our day is the special celestial event that took place in this portion of the sky a few years ago. Astronomers expect this event to reoccur any time now. When it does, look up, for your redemption draweth nigh!!!

This remarkable observation came to my attention not long ago when I was contacted by a Pastor from Alabama named Chris Patrick. He shared with me a story not unlike my own when I had been made aware of a particular sign in the heavens a few years ago. He wrote a book called The Zodiac Conspiracy, a very enjoyable book, in which he shares what was revealed to him about the sign that occurred in Argo and about other celestial events too. If this interests you, request the book The Zodiac Conspiracy. Send \$6.95 plus \$2 S&H (Inside US, add additional postage if international mailing is requested) to: Christian Research Ministries PO Box 620571 Orangevale, CA 95662

"Jerusalem Star of David Synchronicity"

An interesting event transpired on January 23, 1997. New Age people gathered in New York for a Simultaneous Global Meditation, welcoming in the age of Aquarius. I heard about it from a friend via e-mail and then I saw them on CNN brief! This particular time was evidently chosen because of an astrological chart of the heavens. The celestial bodies made five points of a star and the sixth was formed by the people themselves, supposedly completing the pattern as they gathered in New York at the location of 4 degrees 4 minutes Gemini on the Ascendant at 12:35 p.m.

I downloaded the graphic of the star from the Gaiamind website and noted that the celestial bodies in the alignment

shown actually resembles an inverted five-pointed star, enclosed within a circle. Those of you who are knowledgeable about such symbols would recognize this as the pentagram of witchcraft, the Goat of Mendes, the sign of the cloven hoof. Compare the two in the graphic. You might also have noted that the name of the website, "Gaiamind," honors the Mother Earth goddess Gaia.

The page notes that at the very moment 4 degrees four minutes Gemini is rising in New York City, that same point is at Midheaven in Jerusalem. (7:35 Jerusalem time) It is also noted that this day, January 23rd, was a special day on the Hebrew calendar (Tu B'Shvat) which is known as the "birthday of the trees", or, as they say, Nature's birthday. I do not doubt that they celebrated Gaia's birthday at that time, welcoming the "new age" of Aquarius as her present to be shared with all her global children.

Many "spiritual" men and women consider this to be a very special celestial sign. The appears to be more a sign of antichrist than of the true messiah, doesn't it? But, as noted earlier, the coming of the one is related to the coming of the other.

The Heaven's Gate religious sect was recently in the news, bringing to everyone's attention the fact that people, even intelligent people who appear every bit as normal as your next door neighbors are making life and death decisions based upon their interpretation of the heavenly signs. One woman who recently received my publication A Sign to the Magi proposed that if the people involved with the Heaven's Gate would have read this publication, they never would have been deceived.

The Sign of the Heavenly Menorah

An upcoming alignment of seven heavenly bodies is an extremely rare event, so rare it may be that we have never yet seen such a sight. The alignment of these seven lights in a straight line gives us the representation of a menorah. The menorah is a seven branched lamp that was a fixture in the tabernacle and then in the temple. These buildings and the fixtures associated with them were all patterned carefully after that which is in heaven. (See endnote #6) According to the Jewish historian Josephus (Antiquities of the Jews, book 3, chapter V11:7), the following seven celestial bodies represent the menorah: The Sun, Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. It is a fact that these same seven heavenly lights will be aligned in a straight line in the year 2000 - in the constellation Aries. Because this alignment includes the Moon, which moves rapidly, it only lasts for a couple days. One of these days the menorah is formed is the second of the month Iyyar, the anniversary of the dates construction began on both temples. (by Solomon and then by Ezra)

The constellation Aries is known in the Hebrew as Taleh - "the lamb." The brightest, or, alpha star in Aries is named, El Nath which means; "wounded, slain." The beta star is Al Sheratan; "the bruised, the wounded." This zodiacal sign is an obvious picture of the lamb who was wounded and slain, our Lord Jesus Christ - the lamb of God of John 1:29 who takes away the sin of the world. The menorah is also a symbol of the church whose Lord is the Lamb. I want you to consider what is written about this Lamb in Revelation 21:22:

I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

It is very interesting that the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple in the New Jerusalem. If the heavenly menorah is "in the Lamb," (Aries) it is symbolically placed in the temple in the New Jerusalem. The marking of the anniversary of the day construction began on the earthly temple twice before in history by such a unique celestial sign suggests that we should watch Iyyar 2, 5760 (2000 AD) very closely.

The Great Pyramid: - A Polar Alignment

There is another facsimile of a temple located in Egypt, the great Pyramid of Giza. The capstone of this ancient stone structure is a symbol of Jesus. It has ever been missing from its pinnacle for it is the stone referred to in the Bible as "rejected by its builders." (Luke 20:7) This is an allegory of Jesus being rejected by national Israel at his first advent. He will be accepted, and the capstone brought out according to Zechariah 4:7. Volumes have been written about its physical architecture, internal and external. Honest skeptics who investigate the claims made about its Messianic teaching turn to accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord. It has been said to be a Bible in stone and a chronograph of the history of man, a revelation of the world's government by its Creator. Much has also been written about its astronomical curiosities.

The following was copied from the website <http://www.mt.net/7Ewatcher/pyramid.html>, a site done by The Watcher,

with whom I correspond on occasion.

The Descending Passage of the Great Pyramid is perfectly aligned with the center of the zenith of the heavens. Because of the precession of the equinoxes, a Pole Star shines precisely down the Descending Passage only once every several thousand years. In 2170 BC Alpha Draconis, (Thuban, the Subtle One) shown directly down the Descending Passage. A new Pole Star will finally become aligned within the next few years; this star's name in Arabic is Al Ruccaba (The Revolved Upon). This is the principle star in the constellation Ursa Minor. To the ancients this constellation represented "The Stronghold of the Saved". Each year the North Star shines further down the Descending Passage. It will illuminate the entrance to the Well Shaft, tellingly referred to as the Point of Last Escape, in 1997. The North Star will shine on the floor of the Subterranean Passage seven years later in 2004.

It might be that the precision of the years noted is debatable, but they are not far off, if indeed they're off at all. What does this mean? The celestial alarm clock is going off. Heaven and Earth are bearing synchronized testimony. Something is going to happen. Watch! Stay alert and watch. Do not be caught unawares.

Conclusion:

I have documented numerous celestial signs of diverse character and by them, tested the authenticity of one prophet's message. These signs include the Red Moons, the Solar Eclipse Comets, the Shoemaker-Levy Comet/Jupiter collision, the Orion Comet prophecy, the Noahic Flood Comet, the Hale-Bopp/Hyakutake path crossing accompanied by the Lunar Occultation of Al Debaran, the Sign of Argo, the so-called "Jerusalem Star of David Synchronicity", the Sign of the Heavenly Menorah in the Heavenly Temple and finally that of the Great Pyramid ascending passage's alignment with the celestial zenith. I have gathered the astronomical and the historical facts and offered them with what I believe are reasonable inferences. By doing so, it is my hope that you will be impressed upon to act appropriately according to the brevity of time it seems we have left for laboring in the Lord's harvest field. The voice of the heavenly messengers are warning us that time of the great deception is upon us. The lawless one will soon be revealed. The Lord will shortly gather his own to himself. The nations of the world will be judged as the Lord's great wrath is poured out upon them. God's account with Israel will be settled for good. Hallelujah!

Various dates have arisen from this study as special dates on which to watch for certain types of events. If the celestial signs have gotten your attention, on your next reading through this issue of The Open Scroll, check the dates on your calendar. I do hope that you're acknowledging the Biblical Feasts and Hebrew special times so that you're becoming familiar with the Lord's appointed times.

If you as a Christian brother or sister have denied that the increasing frequency of earthquakes and other signs in the earth are truly signs of our Lord's coming in judgment, how are you going to refute the testimony of the celestial signs? Why not recognize that all the signs foretold from long ago are evident? Humble yourselves before the Lord. Accept His reproof and heed His warning. There are several more signs to come, some of which have been noted by myself and others and still further signs which have yet to present themselves. As time goes on, if we can learn a lesson from history, what seemed to us at first to be a message that was merely a whisper on the lips of the celestial prophets will soon be heard as a shout, so that everyone's eyes will be turned heavenward in wonder.

Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets. Amos 3:7

For further study:

- A Sign to the Magi by Bob Schlenker
- Celestial Signs marking Yom Kippur, The Open Scroll - September/October 1996 by Bob Schlenker
- Signs in the Heavens by Avi Ben Mordechai
- The Zodiac Conspiracy by F. Chris Patrick
- Signs in the Heavens by Robert Wadsworth and Dan Stockemer
- The Witness of the Stars by E.W. Bullinger

Endnotes:

#5) See Revelation 1:14

#6) Hebrews 8:5: They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.

This is the end of the second of two documents comprising the article: Watch! - The Celestial Signs.

Bob Schlenker
Christian Research Ministries
PO Box 620571
Orangevale, CA 95662

Eighth Day Assembly