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Amplification by

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## Biblical Signs part I

### The Rainbow - Genesis 9:13 – 17

**Intro:** We are a generation that is used to signs being everywhere, road and highway signs, pedestrian signs, directional signs, and advertising signs exist everywhere. Even if one is not feeling well, we look for some sort of signs that might tell us if the sickness is just a cold or perhaps something more serious like a stroke. We simply want information and some times we need it even if we don't want it. (**I Corinthians 13:10.**)

Jesus speaking to the Pharisees in **Matthew 16:1 – 4** about signs and their ability to discern the sky and determine what the day would hold, we would put it this way, “red sky at night, sailors delight, red sky in the morning, sailors warning.” Then Jesus rebukes them because they wanted a sign to authenticate who He was – **Matthew 16:4** – “**A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.**”

The Apostle Paul addresses via the Holy Spirit of God, that men exercising worldly wisdom will never arrive to an \_\_\_\_\_ of God and God's plan for the redemption of the lost. **I Corinthians 1:21 – 18 – 23.** God is finished using signs, dreams, visions and miracle of healings to \_\_\_\_\_ His word and His plans. Everything we need to know has been recorded in His infallible Word, and as long as we are reading and meditating in His Word, we will be able to \_\_\_\_\_ the warnings and preparation of watchfulness for the unfolding of His plans as time moves forward, towards the end times. They will be real time, unfolding events as well as developing events – **I Thessalonians 4:13 – 5:5.** Few folks who know their Bible doubt that the 'last days' are far away, as there is a foreboding darkness settling in unlike anything we've seen following the historical biblical flood.

Does God still heal? Yes! So, we can pray for His will to be done in the sick. God can and still does miracles, but they are not authenticating signs of some event about to \_\_\_\_\_. Having said this, we know that signs have played a significant roll throughout human history in revealing God's plans and teaching future generations the power, the promises and purposes of God.

#### **I. The rainbow pointed to God's wrath - Genesis 9:13 – 17.**

- A. To put this in perspective we have to go back to **Genesis 6:1 – 7** where God states the moral & spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ of mankind – **Genesis 6:5.**

1. Today when there is a rainbow in the sky, everyone grabs their cameras and take bunches of pictures, and they are beautiful to behold.
  2. One may ask if there were rainbows before the flood and the answer would be no as the heavens were vastly different before the flood than after. (**Genesis 2:6; 7:11 – 24.**)
  3. There was no rain before the flood, no snow, really no seasons as we know them today.
  4. There was a serious \_\_\_\_\_ that had developed after the fall of Adam – Sin!
    - a. **Genesis 6:4** – \_\_\_\_\_ – Nephilim. (sons of God/daughters of men)
    - b. **Genesis 6:5** – wickedness became so great that God took drastic measures.
    - c. The drastic measure was the destruction of mankind by a diluvial flood. (**Genesis 6:6 & 7; 7:13 – 24**)
  5. It was before the rainbow that these events took place, and so as we look at a rainbow today, it is also a \_\_\_\_\_ that sin had become so vial, so rampant that God had to take drastic measures.
  6. God, is in the end of time, going to take strong measures in dealing with sin at the end of the ages – **Revelation 20:11 – 20.**
    - a. In the interim, there is the ‘place of torment (hades)’ for the unsaved who die having rejected Christ as Savior. - **Luke 16:221 – 24.**
    - b. Following the cross, those who were held in ‘Abraham’s bosom’ have been \_\_\_\_\_ to heaven – **Matthew 27:52 & 53; Ephesians 4:8 & I Peter 3:19.**
- B. As we look at the rainbow today, we are also reminded that God keeps His promises, and for those who even know somewhat of the Bible, this is perhaps the most important aspect of the rainbow we think about.
1. I don’t know that we can even imagine the degree of wickedness that existed which moved God to take such drastic measures, but the last of the Tribulation, (the Great Tribulation), when Satan is loosed, it will be every bit as bad, if not, then worse.
  2. In the first judgment, God is the One who moved to destroy, in the judgment before the Millennium, God will intervene less man destroys himself.
  3. Juxtapose **Genesis 6:6 & 7; Mark 13:20.**
  4. And so, the rainbow stands as a reminder that God would never destroy mankind using a flood of that magnitude! And God keeps His promises.
- C. God does allow various catastrophic events to take place for chastening or judgment.