

Supplemental Handout for Pat's October 3rd Class

SIGNS AND WONDERS IN THE HEAVENS

Aaron Smith's Testimony

Monday, September 18, 2023

As I wrote these things down Sunday morning there was an interesting testimony that occurred.

I had made it most of the way through the text, [attached as Part 1 and 2] but had to leave to get to church for our service. Upon arriving, we sat down and the service started with Hymn 232 in the blue hymnal, *Great and Marvelous*.

If you don't recall the words, here are the opening lines, with emphasis added:

"Great and marvelous are Thy works, O Lord of hosts, almighty One!
Earth *and firmament speak Thy praise, Thy name is written in the Sun.*"

And then from the second verse:

"Thou has fashioned with Thine own hand, The earth below, *the heavens above:*"

As we sang this hymn of praise, the Holy Spirit overwhelmed me. I had confirmation that God is in ALL things, including these celestial events.

May God bless you as you contemplate these things; study and pray over them.

Signs and Wonders in the Heavens – Part 2 [first]

Shared by Aaron J. Smith – September 17, 2023

The comet Nishimura (named after the man who discovered it in August of 2023) is passing through our sky as this paper is typed. Astronomers have told us it circles the sun every 435 years, but since the telescope was not created until 1609, we can only speculate whether the previous trip around the sun in 1588 was visible to the naked eye.

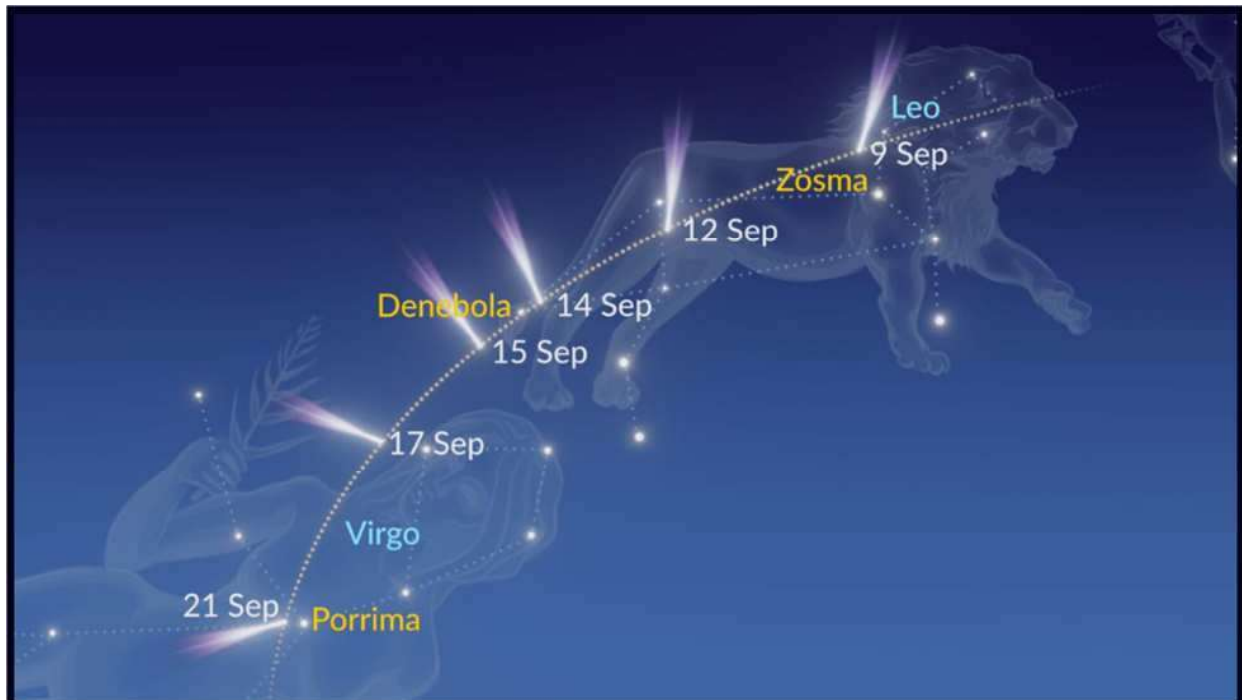
I will refer the reader to my previous article bearing the same name as this article about the comet Neowise, which occurred back in 2020. The rationale and explanations for why we look to the stars is explained there.

That article can be found here:

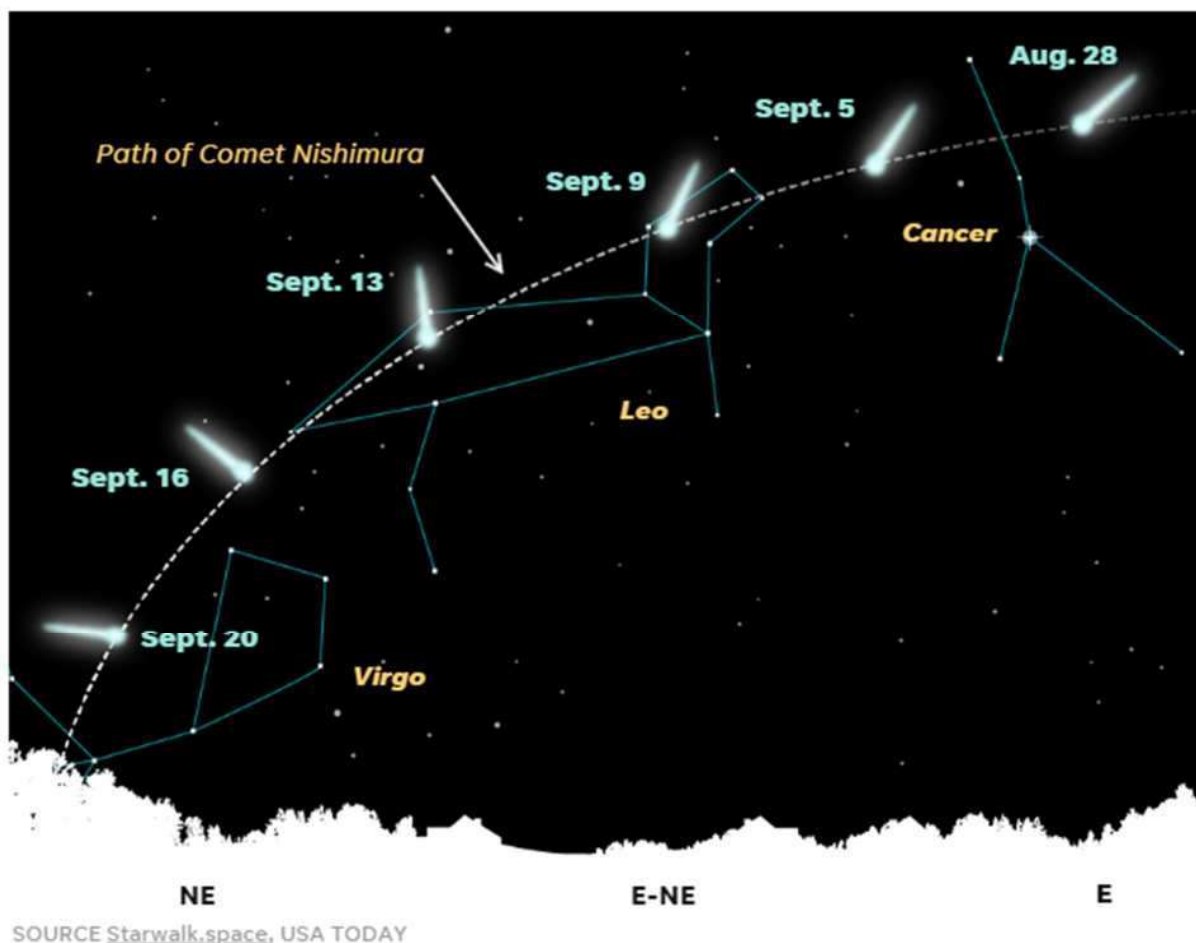
<https://sites.google.com/view/purpleflowers16/signs-and-wonders-in-the-heavens> (See Part 1 - following)

This new comet will be traveling through the constellations of Leo and Virgo, in that order. Just like the other two comets mentioned in that article, this one is visible to humans on the earth over a Jewish Feast (Rosh Hoshana).

Here are two visual images representing its path.



<https://starwalk.space/en/news/new-comet-c2023-p1>



<https://www.floridatoday.com/story/tech/science/space/2023/09/12/comet-nishimura-path-best-time-view-visible-naked-eye-constellation-leo-where-spot/70830601007/>

Nishimura was discovered on August 12. However, it only becomes visible to some of humanity in the first half of September, as its trajectory brings it close to earth and then around the sun near the middle of the month. It is/was to be found in the northern sky, down on the horizon, and would show a greenish tail – all right before dawn.

We will examine both the path and the closest stars and their meanings for 'heaven declares the glory of God' and they also were set to declare the 'signs and the seasons'. Finally, we will examine the overall location and timing in our sky, because God set these signs and wonders for us.

The first thing we notice is that this comet travels through Leo and then splits Virgo in half.

According to Bullinger (*The Witness of the Stars* (1893)), Leo represents Christ. He mentions how there are six Hebrew names for a lion. This one, *Arieh*, means "a lion coming vehemently, leaping forth as a flame!" The brightest star is Regulus and means 'treading under foot'. This makes sense when you consider that the Lion of the tribe of Judah is coming to destroy the serpent (Hydra, the constellation under Leo). There are three other stars worth mentioning in this constellation. The one in the tip of the tail is *Denebola*, meaning "the Judge" or the "the Lord who cometh." The star in the mane is *Al Giebhah* (Arabic) and means "exaltation." The star on his back is *Zosma* – "shining forth."

This last star, the shining forth of Christ, is the star which this comet flew closest to on September 13. On September 16, it flew by the tail, “the Judge” or “Lord who cometh”.

Can you see what this comet is telling us? Do we have any prophecies that would indicate a similar story to us? Jesus told John that He was the “bright and morning star” or in other words, He is the “light of the world.” This is another way to say He “shines forth.” We have more prophecies about Jesus’ return to the earth than we do his first coming, so that part of the constellation should be readily seen.

To whom is He coming? This comet could have flown in any direction in 360 degrees, but the arc of this comet flew right beside the head of Virgo and then closest to the star in the center, Porrima (some older maps call this star *Al Tzemech*, which means in Hebrew, The Branch – a name given to Christ 4 times in the Bible). Virgo is a woman holding a branch in one hand. This constellation represents the beginning of the story of Christ on earth – His virgin birth. Physically, that star makes up the section under the left arm of the constellation or in some representations, her heart. The arc of the comet flies right by it and divides the woman in half. **The comet cuts the woman in two.**

The woman represents the church, not just Mary, Christ’s physical mother. This is explained more than once in scripture (Rev. 12:7). Do we have a prophecy that when Christ comes back (to the church) He is going to cut it in half? Or more appropriately, He will divide the church (not necessarily that there will be a 50-50 split)?

We can assuredly say yes, we have a prophecy about this. In fact, we can point to several.

We should all know the first one. The parable of the 10 virgins explains a time of judgment in the church. *Christ literally uses the same term as the constellation in this ‘sign’ – a virgin!* Those who had oil were ready to enter the bridegroom’s feast. Those who did not have the oil were kept shut out. The basic understanding is given to the unwise virgins that Christ will tell them, “You know me not” (Matthew 25:11). A similar parable is then told with the talents. The servants, Christ followers, were all given talents. Two of the three did something with their talent while one buried it in the earth. When Christ comes back to the church, He is wroth with the servant who buried his talent, and there is an understanding that is given in that parable that indicates the servant really did not know Christ. Christ chastises him and says, ‘if you had known Me, you would have given this talent to the exchangers’. The baseline for this parable and the previous one is the ones who are cast out did not KNOW Christ.

Knowing Christ and the Father is a definition of salvation that Christ lays out in His prayer in the garden in John 17. This intimate relationship expresses a deep and abiding love for each party from the other. Do you know that Christ has saved you? Do you know that He loves you deeply, passionately, and without hesitation? Do you love Him in return likewise?

Finally, this comet’s overall location in the sky is down near the horizon, right before dawn. We have an adage or old saying that it is darkest right before the dawn. We use that to help give us hope in times of great darkness. Every day, the dawning of the sun reiterates this message to us – there is always hope for a brighter time. Christ has prophesied that His return to the earth will be like the sun rising (Acts 10:26, D&C 5:3g, Ps 84:11, Isa 60:19-20, Revelation 1:16, Hab 3:4, 2 Thes 2:8). And so, this action, this “light” that shines forth in the dark of the early morning, right before the dawn, is to take place before Christ’s triumphal return to rule over the earth. This coming is to happen at night. This coming is to cut the church in half, to separate those who know Him from those who do not.

And so, we see, the signs in the heavens point to the time that is soon approaching. Christ is coming to judge his church. There will be a division between those who know Christ and those who do not. There will be a reward for those who do and who have served Him faithfully. There will be judgment for those who do not. The church will be “cut in half.”

The church has received warning, now twice over the last 3 to 4 years, that we live in the days of the fulfillment of the parable of the 10 virgins and that now is the prophetic time of midnight (when that parable comes to its conclusion). Are you ready to meet your Savior? Do you have the Holy Spirit as your guide?

Below are the two drawings from Bullinger’s original work regarding Leo and Virgo for reference. The arc shown here represents where the constellations all lie in the great circle in the sky.



Plate 39: LEO (the Lion)



Plate 1: Virgo (the Virgin)

[The Project Gutenberg EBook of The Witness of the Stars by Ethelbert William Bullinger](#)

Signs and Wonders in the Heavens – Part 1 [second] Shared by Aaron J. Smith – September 17, 2023

The comet Neowise, (named due to the NASA telescope that found it) discovered by humanity on March 27, 2020 is gracing the sky in July over North America. This is a very rare comet. We are told it won't appear again for another roughly 6800 years.

Is this just another comet? Is there nothing more to see here than a 5 km iceberg flying through space putting off a beautiful plume and tail?

First, let us turn to the word of God for truth:

Psalms 147:1-4

1 Praise ye the Lord; for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely.

2 The Lord doth build up Jerusalem; he gathereth together the outcasts of Israel.

3 He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

4 He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names.

What do we learn here? First that God should highly be praised. Second, that he will gather us together (both Jew and Gentile under his covenant). Third, in gathering he heals and fourth, he (God) has numbered and given names to the stars.

Daniel 6:27 "He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions."

What do we learn here? God uses signs and wonders **in heaven** and in earth and again, he delivers!

Helaman 5:60 "And behold this is not all, there shall be many signs and wonders in heaven."

What do we learn here? This verse is specific to the coming of Christ and how the believers in the Promised Land (Western hemisphere) would know of Christ's birth. What was Christ's purpose in coming? To deliver (Rom 11:26), to gather (Ephesians 1:9-10) and to heal (Psalms 147:3) among others. His entrance into the world would be accompanied by celestial events.

D&C 45:6a-b "And it shall come to pass that he that feareth me shall be looking forth for the great day of the Lord to come, even for the signs of the Coming of the Son of man; and they shall see signs and wonders, for they shall be shown forth in the heavens above, and in the earth beneath;"

What do we learn here? The believer will be looking for celestial signs to announce Jesus' coming in glory. This also implies that there WILL be signs indicating this.

Acts 2:19 "And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath;"

This verse is quoting from Joel, but is talking about the Lord's coming in glory in the last days. This helps us see that there are multiple witnesses to this and we should pay attention!

Have we already seen signs and wonders in heaven over the last decade?

Absolutely. We have seen the following in recent history (all comments relate to the Israel feasts or special days):

Comet Ison – (Hanukah) 11/28/13

Blood red moon – (Passover starts) – 04/15/14

Blood moon – (Sukkot) – 10/08/14

Total Solar eclipse – (Day 1 of religious year) – 03/10/15

Blood moon – (Passover) – 04/04/15

Partial Solar Eclipse – (Civil New Year) – 09/23/15

Blood Moon – (Sukkot) – 09/28/15

Solar Eclipse – Aug 21, 2017

Solar Eclipse – April 8, 2024 (these two solar eclipses make a giant X by their converging paths over America – could it be that X marks the spot? Could it be God warning America?)

All of what has been mentioned is old news for most of you. You've read up on this in the past decade, seen all the hype from Christians who believe in the rapture and their theories. However, with this new comet, there surely is no coincidence of its timing or its location in the sky. God doesn't make mistakes.

One of the faults of modern Christians is to expect something exactly on the day of the celestial event. However, what we find is that God is more interested in getting our attention to a specific season or a time frame versus a specific day. This is what I believe the nine celestial events were from above and what this one below helps us to confirm. God is saying, "Pay attention to this time". He isn't saying, "something will happen on any of those given days". In prophecy we see the term, "In that day" a lot. That doesn't mean one day. It means the time period when the prophetic utterance will actually occur. Signs and wonders in the heavens prior to Christ's return means we should expect those signs and wonders to definitely be near the return, not necessarily the exact year of the return or in the same month/day.

The Comet NEOWISE:

God knew of Neowise's course well before we did. And in fact, if we believe in a young earth model, this comet has never flown by the earth and we believe then it will never be seen again on earth as it stands now. So this is a once-in-a-creation fly-by and that should get our attention as well.

We have been aware that over the last 3-6 months things in the world have turned. The church was warned to 'batten down the hatches' in a message given to Elder Karl Anderson back in February. This was immediately followed by not just a plague and lockdown, but then race riots that we haven't seen in this country since the 60's. It is also an election year and there are many influences at work in our culture and society to blind people to the truth. As well, way back in December of last year, the Coordinating Council of the Conference of Restoration Elders met together for worship. In this experience, God brought forth a message to call a Solemn Assembly. When this was first being published in the spring, I ran across a [video](#) from Jonathan Cahn (The Harbinger author) called 'The Return'.

In that short video, he calls for all of America to join in a 'Sacred Assembly' at the end of September. Both he and the CRE reference Joel's call for such an event to return us to God, repent of our sins and ask for His assistance.

Last, a pastor of an Assembly of God church in Kentucky has had a series now of 4 dreams. The last one he just had in the second week of July 2020 and it is found here:

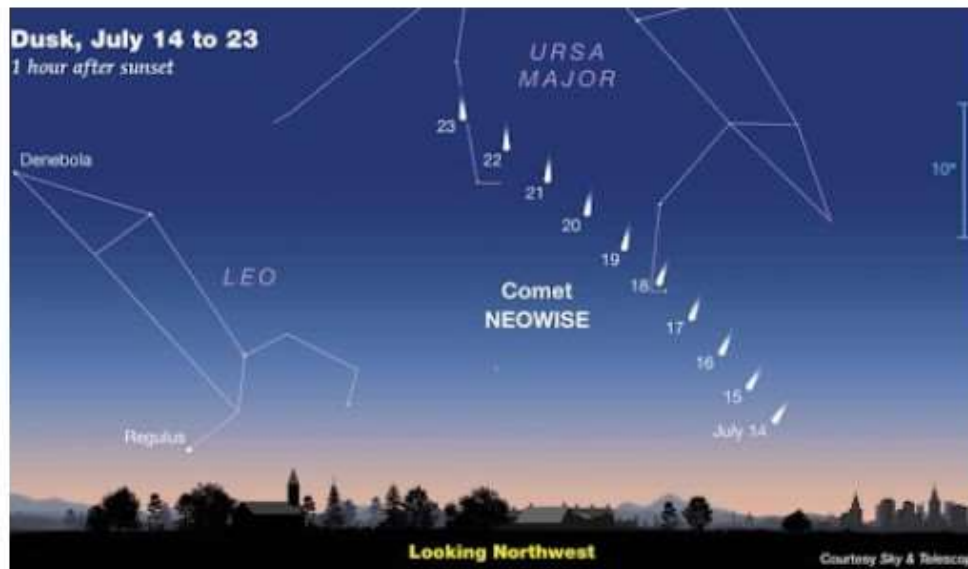
Coverstone Dream

In it, he claims God showed him September and along with many other things, wrote the words “A Solemn Assembly” around the month (it was a giant calendar he was viewing).

So now we have three distinct calls for a Solemn Assembly in September.

What does the comet have to do with any of this?

The comet's path came to my attention from a friend's post. It showed the path when from the central part of the states, this comet would be visible in the sky. Here is that picture:



On July 23rd, the comet will be at the closest point to the earth. As you will notice, that path is directly under Ursa Major, commonly referred to as the Big Dipper or the Big Bear. The Big Bear, however, is misnamed according to many sources online and author William Bullinger in his book *The Witness of the Stars* (1893) found [here](#).

Really, that constellation was more aptly named The Fold and the Flock. This is due to the 7 major stars that make up the Big Dipper (the largest part of this larger constellation).



The following are the names of the individual stars and their meanings in their original language:

Dubhe – herd of animals

Merach – the flock

Phaeda – visited, guarded, or numbered

Alioth – she goat

Mizar – the lamb

Al Kaid – the assembled or the assembly

Talitha – little girl (Aramaic referencing the young maiden Christ healed/raised in the testimony of Mark)

Do you literally see the connection God is making for us? He is calling our attention by this flaming ball of fire flying under The Assembled Flock. He is gathering the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25) – a story related to His coming in glory. He is calling the Assembly (Joel 2). He is about to ‘raise’ the little girl (church) back from apparent death (Mark 5).

I will call your attention back to the opening scripture from Psalms 147. God is desiring to gather and heal the body of Christ, showing us with signs and wonders so our praise may be unto Him.

Is it a coincidence that a one-time wonder in the sky would fly and be visible in this exact location to those in the US two months prior to God’s call to have a Solemn Assembly – not by one group, but by three Christian witnesses?

We live in a very exciting time, brothers and sisters. Both for the good that will take place and the bad. God has not left us without a witness (Acts 14:17) and He continues to show us His purposes and plans for those who are willing to see them. Whosoever has eyes to see and ears to hear, let them see and let them listen.