

The Seven Spirits of God

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God's Promise to Noah

Introduction:

In Genesis after the great flood, God made a promise to Noah, never to destroy the earth by water again.

Genesis 9:12-16 And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make ... 13 I do set my bow in the cloud, ... 14 And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: 15 And I will remember my covenant... 16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant ...



The bow God speaks of is the rainbow set in the cloud. Now God showed Noah a literal rainbow in a literal cloud. What application can we see for ourselves in this verse?

Does the Rainbow Have Meaning For Us?

First of all Jesus said that the dealings of God in Noah's day would foreshadow and parallel the dealings of God in our day:

Matthew 24:37 KJV - 37 But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

If we accept Jesus statement in the preceding verse it is not doing violence to the meaning to conclude that just as the Father put a "bow in a cloud" in Noah's day, EVEN SO He is putting a prophetic "bow in a cloud in our day".

Paul taught that the people and events recorded in the Old Testament actually foreshadowed things that God is saying to you and I today:

1 Corinthians 10:11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come (See Rom. 15:4; Col. 2:17; Heb. 8:5; Heb. 10:1).

In other words, Paul claims in the preceding verses that the Old Testament record handed down to us merely foreshadows matters of greater import and substance that APPLY TO US TODAY.

God is Speaking of Himself to Us and in Us:

So what does the BOW (or Rainbow) and the Cloud in Genesis 9 speak to us?

Jude 1:12 tells us that clouds actually speak of people. Even when Jesus speaks of coming in the clouds we understand He is speaking not merely of natural clouds, but clouds of people (See Mark 14:62; 1 Th. 4:17; Rev. 1:7). Also Hebrews 12:1 and Jude 1:14

So the Father is saying that as he did with Noah in the natural (putting a bow in the cloud) so in our day he is putting a spiritual bow into a spiritual cloud (his people). What does this mean? It is in fact a veiled reference to God living inside of us by the Holy Spirit.

A rainbow is made up of light. Doesn't the scripture tell us that God is light? (See 1 John 1:5). So God is in us and He is light. What happens to us as a result? We become what He is. We become "light in the Lord" (See Eph. 5:8; Matt. 5:14; John 8:12;).

God created natural light to have properties that speak of himself and of himself in us. What are some of the basic properties of light? For the purpose of our teaching, we point out that light when cast through a prism or in a rainbow reveals seven colors.

Seven Visible Colors – Seven Spirits of God:

What does that have to do with God? In Isa 11:1-4 the scriptures tell us that there are SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD. These seven spirits of God in the order given in the preceding verse correspond to the seven colors of the rainbow:

Red – Spirit of the Lord

Orange – Spirit of Wisdom

Yellow – Spirit of Understanding

Green – Spirit of Counsel

Blue – Spirit of Might

Indigo – Spirit of Knowledge

Violet – Spirit of the Fear of the Lord

In short, God is making the point that because He indwells each of us, we therefore have the fullness of his character and attributes living in us, activated in us, as God goes about the business of BEING GOD IN US!

What is True in Christ in True in Us:

Col. 2:8-9 says that in Christ dwells the fullness of the God-head bodily. Someone might say "well that was Jesus". That isn't what it says. The verse doesn't make that distinction. It is speaking of Jesus of course, but emphasis is on who he is AS CHRIST, because the Father wants us to know that CHRIST IN US (Col. 1:26-29) manifests in our

heart not just as a token presence but the very fullness of all that he is and all that he is doing is being transacted in us and through us right now.

The Visible Spectrum of God's Glory

A Shift in the Last Days:

In the last chapter we learned that God made a promise to Noah (see Gen. 9:12-16), never to destroy the earth by water again. As a confirmation of that promise he placed a rainbow in a cloud. Now Jesus said that the last days would be as the days of Noah (See Matt. 24:37).

When did the last days begin? The last days began with the inauguration of Jesus' ministry when He was baptized by John in the Jordan:

Matthew 11:12-15 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 And if ye will receive [it], this is Elias, which was for to come. 15 He that hath ears to hear, let him hear (See also Matt. 3:2; Matt. 4:17; Matt. 10:7; Mark 1:15; Luke 21:31).

God uses the prophetic ministry (such as John the Baptist) to initiate change in the earth. The Angel of Change comes to initiate the change and the prophetic ministry is always the harbinger of these seasons transition.

So if you believe the scriptures that the days of the coming of the son of Man (commencing with the birth of Christ) would be as the days of Noah then among other things we can make the following supposition:

1 Corinthians 15:46 KJV - 46 Howbeit that [was] not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

Noah had a natural rainbow in a natural cloud as a manifestation of God, we have a spiritual rainbow, in a spiritual cloud. We have shown that clouds are spoken of in scripture as a type of PEOPLE (See Mark 14:62; 1 Th. 4:17; Rev. 1:7. Also Hebrews 12:1 and Jude 1:14)

God is putting something of Himself in us that is explained and understood by studying the properties of a rainbow.

Further Understanding of the Rainbow:

What is a rainbow? The Science Dictionary defines a rainbow as:

"An arc-shaped spectrum of light (God is light 1 John 1:5) seen in the sky opposite the Sun, especially after rain (God's Spirit Hosea 6:3), caused by the refraction and reflection of sunlight by droplets of water (Water represents the Word of God see Eph. 5:26) suspended in the air."

So we see simply put, that a rainbow is a refraction of light. John the Beloved tells us that “God is Light”. The rainbow represents a reflection of God Himself in the earth, in us specifically.

1 John 1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

We’ve already established that we are the clouds. So a rainbow represents that nature of God refracting in our lives as God shines His light into our hearts (See 2 Corinthians 4:6).

Clouds without Water: Unable to Refract God’s Glory:

One of the greatest evils the scriptures tell us about are men and women who are “clouds without water” (See Jude 1:12). What does that mean? A cloud without water is a cloud that cannot refract a rainbow. Spiritually speaking a cloud without water is a man or woman who does not refract God’s nature in the earth. We are in the image of God but aren’t reflecting His image. This is false advertising. It is fraud on a cosmic scale.

So we now understand why God sent a rainbow as a sign of His promise not to destroy the earth again by flood. He destroyed it in the first place because of the entrenched evil in men’s hearts (See Gen. 6:5).

Seven Revealed Attributes of God in Us:

The whole point of the rainbow is God committing himself to remediate the evil in man (by the Cross) and being willing to do whatever was necessary see Himself reflected IN US through the indwelling Christ! This is the mandate of the cross of Christ!

We saw that the rainbow has seven colors which are in fact the visible spectrum of light (God is light). Isaiah 11:1-4 tells us there are seven spirits of God which are in fact the seven-fold manifestation of God’s glory (or visibility in the earth).

Red – Spirit of the Lord

Orange – Spirit of Wisdom

Yellow – Spirit of Understanding

Green – Spirit of Counsel

Blue – Spirit of Might

Indigo – Spirit of Knowledge

Violet – Spirit of the Fear of the Lord

We will take each of these aspects of God’s nature and explore what they are and how God causes them to be reflected in our life.

Refracting the Glory

Review:

We have established several points:

1. Jesus taught that the character of the last days would be reflected in the days that Noah lived in: Matthew 24:37 But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

2. According to the teachings of Jesus, the “last days” began with his own baptism of John in the Jordan.

Matthew 11:12-15 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 And if ye will receive [it], this is Elias, which was for to come. 15 He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

3. We can begin to understand what Noah’s day means to us today by comprehending the teaching of Paul that the natural occurrences in the Old Testament times foreshadow spiritual experiences for those of us in the New Testament time frame.

1 Corinthians 15:46 Howbeit that [was] not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

4. Therefore looking at Gen. 9 through the lens of 1 Cor. 15:46 we conclude: if Noah had the natural occurrence of a rainbow in a cloud then the cloud and rainbow must then point to and foreshadow a spiritual experience available to you and I.

5. We are God’s clouds. The scriptures are replete with typology speaking of men and women as “clouds”. (See Mark 14:62; 1 Th. 4:17; Rev. 1:7. Also Hebrews 12:1 and Jude 1:14)

6. The Rainbow according to the Scientific Dictionary is a refraction of light. 1 John 1:5 tells us that GOD IS LIGHT. The rainbow as a natural phenomena expresses to us something about God’s nature (Ro. 1:20).

7. Therefore the rainbow in the cloud speaks of GOD IN US. God is purposing to REFRACT something of Himself in us.

He is Coming in the Clouds and He is Coming IN US:

1 Thessalonians 4:16 speaks of the apocalyptic coming of the Lord. This is commonly believed to be the event by which God removes the righteous from the earth and commences the final judgment leading up to the end of time.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 - For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Yet there is another statement Paul makes of something that will happen before the things the preceding verse describes:

2 Thessalonians 1:10 - When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

How are we to understand these verses in comparison one to another? One teacher puts it this way: Christ is coming IN US before He comes FOR US!

In 2 Thess. 1:10 the word “glorified” is defined as “to be adorned with glory, light, effulgence (light) to be adorned with the out-raying of the Divine.”

Isn't this a description of what a rainbow does to a cloud? A rainbow ADORNS a cloud. And the Father is purposing to ADORN US....

God's Adornment in Us:

The Rainbow has seven colors. It adorns the cloud with seven colors. There are seven spirits of God that the Father wants to adorn Himself within us.

Isaiah 11:1-3- And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

The Seven Spirits of God listed in order with the colors of the Rainbow are:

Red – Spirit of the Lord

Orange – Spirit of Wisdom

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Indigo – Spirit of Knowledge

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God is Reminding HIMSELF not Us:

Now remember this: God didn't put the rainbow in the cloud in Noah's day to remind us of His promise not to destroy the earth. He put the rainbow in the cloud to REMIND HIMSELF (Gen. 9:15).

In other words instead of looking upon the wickedness of man he put a refraction of Himself in man so that He would see HIMSELF in humanity instead of seeing our sinful condition. And based on what He sees, he forebears judgment.

Conclusion:

When you need an answered prayer, a hand of deliverance from God, He doesn't go through your life with a fine scrutiny to see if you are worthy. He simply looks for the refraction of Himself in you by His Spirit and then acts in your behalf.

Let us then open our lives to explore and optimize the fullness of God's spirit finding its reflecting in our very person at a most rudimentary level.

Ascending Jacob's Ladder:

In Genesis 9:12-15, God revealed the nature of His spirit through the seven hues seen in the prism of a rainbow.

Isaiah 11:1-3 further illuminates the special meaning of the rainbow by enumerating for us the Seven Spirits of God.

The order in which the color of the rainbow appear is determined by nature. This order corresponds the each color with a specific attribute of God's Spirit as listed in order in the inspired word of God.

The Seven Spirits of God listed in order with the colors of the Rainbow are:

| | | |
|--------|---|--------------------------------|
| Red | – | Spirit of the Lord |
| Orange | – | Spirit of Wisdom |
| Yellow | – | Spirit of Understanding |
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| Blue | – | Spirit of Might |
| Indigo | – | Spirit of Knowledge |
| Violet | – | Spirit of the Fear of the Lord |

This is, if you will a “top down” revelation of God. Red is the highest color in the arc and violet is the lowest color.

We come to know God first by coming to the “Spirit of the Fear of the Lord”. This is the “bottom up” approach we make to God, which is the reverse of how He reveals Himself in the rainbow.

THE FEAR OF THE LORD:

The Fear of the Lord is the entry point in every person's relationship with God:

(Psalm 19:9 KJV) - The fear of the LORD [is] clean, enduring for ever:

It is in the fear of the Lord we come and receive cleansing. That is our first felt need when we begin to ascend the seven spirits of God, or Jacob's ladder into intimate relationship with the Father.

THE SPIRIT OF KNOWLEDGE

(Proverbs 1:7 KJV) - The fear of the LORD [is] the beginning of knowledge: (Also Prov. 1:29)

When we embrace the FEAR of the LORD it deposits us on the cusp of the KNOWLEDGE of the LORD and we begin our ascent into God. We don't leave the Fear of the Lord,

actually it remains the ongoing and upward context for ascending into deeper intimacy with GOD.

THE SPIRIT OF MIGHT

The knowledge of God causes us to ascend into the MIGHT OF GOD. The word might here is “valor, strength, exploits, mighty deeds”.

Now what does the knowledge of God have to do with “mighty deeds and exploits”? What is the correlation of the Spirit of the Knowledge of God to the Spirit of Might?

(Daniel 11:32 KJV) - The people that do know their God shall be strong, and do [exploits].

In the original language this word “know” is often used as a euphemism for “sexual intercourse”. So the knowledge here invokes a picture of intimate discourse with God, as opposed to mere intellectual perception.

THE SPIRIT OF COUNSEL

The Spirit of Counsel and the Spirit of Might are actually paired together in Isaiah 11:2

It speaks of the “predictions, plans, and purposes” of God. These “predictions, plans, and purposes” are what ARISES from the intimacy we come to as we have ascended in the THE SPIRIT OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD having ACTIVATED THAT KNOWLEDGE in exploits of faith by THE SPIRIT OF MIGHT).

THE SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING

The word “understanding” here speaks of discernment. It is the ability to grasp and comprehend. It is the natural outflow of the previous four apprehensions of your heart of the Spirit of God.

We approach the Father in godly fear. We become intimately related to him and come to know Him. Because of that knowledge we act in boldness of faith demonstrating His might in the earth.

Having experienced the power of God and His limitlessness we then gain comprehension of his counsels, and what His “predictions, plans, and purposes” are.

Through his fear, his knowledge, and His might we then ascend into a grasp of His mind (intellect) and begin to comprehend and have understanding of the scope of who He is in our midst.

THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM

There is a distinction between WISDOM, KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING.

Knowledge gives us INFORMATION. Understanding gives us COMPREHENSION. Wisdom

gives us APPLICATION of what we understand and comprehend. Wisdom tells us WHAT TO DO with WHAT WE KNOW.

Wisdom is the apex of the previous five attributes of God's Spirit. He gives us those five (the number of grace) that we might attain to the sixth (His Wisdom). Six is the number of Man.

The first five represent the attributes He gives us in His grace (5) in order that we might attain to the apex, or height of human experience (6 – the number of man) possible in God: to walk in His wisdom. And His wisdom is not some neutral principle. 1 Cor. 1:30,31 tells us that WISDOM IS A PERSON – the MAN / GOD Christ Jesus!

(1 Corinthians 1:30-31 KJV) - But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD

Having ascended from the Fear of the Lord to the Wisdom of God we then are uniquely enabled to acknowledge HIS LORDSHIP IN OUR LIVES and to ACTIVATE HIS ASCENDENCY in everything that concerns us. You will never know the FULLNESS of the LORDSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST without ascending as Jacob did of old in his lifetime and being changed in nature from a JACOB (SUPPLANTER) TO AN ISRAEL (PRINCE, PRINCIPALITY among NATIONS)