Celestial Signs

There is a Bible verse in Matthew and Luke where Jesus talks about celestial signs in the stars, sun and moon. On this page we will show you that these signs have already been fulfilled, showing that we are living in the end times.

Matthew 24:29 ... ‘Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken.’

Luke 21:25-26 ... ‘And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men’s hearts failing them for fear, and looking after those things which are coming on the earth; for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.’

Now compare the above end time prophecy with the sixth seal in Revelation chapter 6 and Joel 2:31:

Revelation 6:12-13 ... ‘And I beheld when He had opened the sixth seal, and lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood. And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.’

Joel 2:31 ... ‘The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.’

So logic tells us that the celestial signs Jesus gave in Luke 21 would be the same as the celestial signs in Revelation 6 and Joel 2, because both are concerned with the end times. So have these signs in the sun, moon and stars been fulfilled? And what about the “great earthquake” in the sixth seal? Yes, these Biblical signs of the end times have been fulfilled as you will see below.

Signs in the Sun, Moon and Stars

You will notice that the following “end time” events took place in the 18th and 19th century. So why are we in the year 2011 and Jesus still hasn’t returned? Well, we need to remember that these Bible signs were not signs that Jesus would immediately return, but rather they were signs to announce the beginning of the end of time. You could say that when these celestial signs happened, God began the final chapter of human history. And since then we have been getting closer and closer to the last days. The signs as you can see from this site are getting stronger and we are sure to see Jesus return soon. So let’s look at the Biblical celestial signs.

Signs in the Sun and Moon

On May 19th in 1780 a dark day occurred in New England in America. This dark day covered the New England states and parts of Canada. The darkness was observed as far north as Portland, Maine, and extended south to New Jersey. And the daytime darkness was so complete that candles were required from noontime that day until the middle of the next night.

“The 19th of May, 1780, was a remarkable dark day. Candles were lighted in many houses; the birds were silent and disappeared, and the fowls retired to roost. ... A very general opinion prevailed, that the day of judgment was at hand.” Quoted in Connecticut Historical Collections, compiled by John Warner Barber.” (2nd ed.; New Haven: Durrie & Peck and J.W. Barber, 1836, p. 403)

“The occurrence brought intense alarm and distress to multitudes of minds, as well as dismay to the whole brute creation, the fowls fleeing bewildered to their roosts, and the birds to their nests, and the cattle returning to their stalls. Frogs and night hawks began their notes. The cocks crew as at daybreak. Farmers were forced to leave their work in the fields. Business was generally suspended, and candles were lighted in the dwellings. The Legislature of Connecticut was in session at Hartford, but being unable to transact business adjourned. Everything bore the appearance and gloom of night.” (Source Unknown)

Take a look at this poem written by the poet “Whittier”, talking of this great dark day in America:

“Twas on a May-day of the far old year Seventeen hundred eighty, that there fell Over the bloom and sweet life of the spring, Over the fresh
Then on the night of this dark day, the moon was said to be blood red.

"The moon which was at its full, had the appearance of blood." (Milo Bostick, Stone's History of Massachusetts)

**Signs in the Stars**

On November 13th in 1833 came the great meteor shower, where as some have quoted, nearly 200,000 meteors fell per hour that lit up the whole sky for hours. This celestial sign as prophesied in the Bible has been commented on as follows:

"For nearly four hours the sky was literally ablaze." (Peter A. Millman, "The Falling of the Stars", The Telescope, 7 (May-June, 1940)

"No language indeed can come up to the splendor of that magnificent display; no one who did not witness it can form an adequate conception of its glory. It seemed as if the whole starry heavens had congregated at one point near the zenith, and were simultaneously shooting forth, with the velocity of lightning, to every part of the horizon; and yet they were not exhausted - thousands swiftly followed in the track of thousands, as if created for the occasion. A more correct picture of a fig-tree casting its figs when blown by a mighty wind, it is not possible to behold." (Author Unknown)

"No philosopher or scholar has told or recorded an event, I suppose, like that of yesterday morning. A prophet eighteen hundred years ago foretold it exactly, if we will be at the trouble of understanding stars falling to mean falling stars, in the only sense in which it is possible to be literally true." (Henry Dana Ward, Nov. 1833)

Since 1833 there have been more meteor showers, notably in 1966, 1998, 1999, 2001 and 2002. But none have come anywhere close to the 1833 event. Now some people I'm sure will say that these don't qualify as being the signs of the end times as described by Jesus because they only occurred in America. Well, where did Jesus say that these celestial signs would happen all over the world? He didn't, therefore these events qualify as being the fulfillment of the celestial signs that Jesus prophesied. And don't forget about the "great earthquake"!

**What About the Great Earthquake?**

As you will see in Revelation 6 above, a great earthquake is to happen around the time of these celestial signs. Did we get one? Yes, on 1st November 1755 a "Megathrust" earthquake hit the city of Lisbon in Portugal, with an estimated magnitude of 9.0. Although it is commonly known as the Lisbon earthquake, it actually extended to the greater part of Europe, Africa, and America. It was felt in Greenland, in the West Indies, in the island of Madeira, in Norway and Sweden, Great Britain and Ireland. It pervaded an extent of not less than four million square miles. In Africa the shock was almost as severe as in Europe. A great part of Algiers was destroyed; and a short distance from Morocco, a village containing eight or ten thousand inhabitants was swallowed up. A vast wave swept over the coast of Spain and Africa, engulfing cities, and causing great destruction. The city of Lisbon itself was near totally destroyed.

The great Lisbon earthquake is one of, if not THE most terrible earthquake ever recorded. And today, over 250 years later, geologists are still trying to piece together the tectonic story behind that powerful earthquake.

Now there is something else that confirms these events above as being the signs that Jesus was talking about. In Matthew 24:29, as quoted at the top of this page, Jesus says that "IMMEDIATELY after the tribulation of those days" is when we would see the celestial signs in the sun, moon and stars. So what tribulation is Jesus talking about? He is talking about the tribulation that the saints suffered during the dark ages, when for 1260 years, the Roman Catholic Church persecuted and murdered tens of millions of Christians who would not bow down to her false teachings. This timeline spanned from 538 AD to 1798 AD. But the "tribulation" (persecution) for God's people came to an end around the 1770's. And when did the first celestial sign above happen? 1780! IMMEDIATELY after the time of tribulation for God's people as Jesus stated. For more information about what the Roman Catholic Church did, including information on the 1260 years, see the Bible antichrist.

So these celestial signs as prophesied in the Bible have certainly been fulfilled, showing that we are definitively in the period of the time of the end. And when you look at all the other signs of the end times, there can be no doubt that our generation is living in the last days, soon to see the second coming of Jesus. Are you ready?

For great truths concerning the end times and Bible prophecy, please see end times prophecy and Bible prophecy today.