

# ***Prophetic Perils***

## **End Time Events Revealed**

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**S t a n   D e y o**

**For Stan: Husband, Best Friend and Partner in Life**  
Zeh Dodi v'Zeh Rei

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# *Prophetic Perils*

## End Time Events Revealed

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–Thank you.

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# Chapter 7: Signs in the Heavens

*There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. — Luke 21:25-26 (NASB)*

*I will display wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. —Joel 2:30-31 (NASB)*

*The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, before the great and glorious day of the Lord shall come. —Acts 2:20 (NASB)*

*And God said, Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be signs and tokens [of God's provident care], and [to mark] seasons, days, and years, —Genesis 1:13-15 (AMP)*

## *Mysteries in the Skies*

The night's canopy is full of extraordinary beauty and mystery. We depend on the magnificent sky eyes of Hubble, Chandra, Spitzer, Herschel and other space telescopes to bring galaxies and nebulae into our living room. If not for them we would experience their grandeur as mere pinpricks of light, if that. Since the first telescope wasn't invented until the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, imagine what people missed seeing before then!

However, some objects, some events were simply too huge and too close, relatively speaking, to miss, telescope or not. Four of these are solar and lunar eclipses, blood moons and comets.

Put yourself in their shoes in pre-telescope days. Every night like celestial clockwork, a creamy bright white moon rises and traces a path through the blackened sky. People have tracked the moon to know when to plant crops, designed calendars by its waxing and waning, and planned feasts and festivals around this orb. Every so often, an odd thing happened when it would "disappear" completely. According to NASA, during the 5,000 years between 1999 BC and 3000 AD, some 12,064 lunar eclipses have occurred or will occur, but only 3,479 were total.

Then one night, something really freakish happened and the moon turned an ominous brick red. What could that mean?

Evidently quite a bit during some appearances, especially when they came in tetrads – or four total lunar eclipses in a row. During those same 5,000 years, it will only occur 142 times. Between 1 and 2100 AD, a tetrad has happened just 62 times. That may sound like a lot for such an unusual show.

Here's when this "very unusual event" becomes "rare". During those same 2,100 years, a tetrad occurring on Jewish Feasts – making it a Biblical Tetrad – has happened only seven times. Seven times in 2,100 years... and each time some momentous event took place within a year on either side of those Tetrads.

In the Jewish year of Nisan 5775 (2015), during March-April, the exact same pattern of holidays, Jewish feasts and total solar eclipse was reproduced like was seen in Nisan 3793 (March-April 33 AD), when Jesus was crucified and resurrected.

## *Biblical Tetrads and Major Events*

1. **April 14, 32 – Sept 27, 33. Jesus' Crucifixion.** This first occurrence doesn't qualify as a tetrad since it featured two full blood moons and two half blood moons. It's usually included as it surrounds Christ's crucifixion and resurrection, setting the pace for monumental events surrounding celestial happenings.

2. **April 17, 162 – Sept. 30, 163. Martyrdom, Diaspora and Great Plague.** This tetrad is associated with the Jewish Diaspora, a deadly plague killed off Europeans and the persecution of Christians in the Roman Empire under Marcus Aurelius Antoninus.

3. **April 9, 795 – Sept. 21, 796. Defeat of the Muslim Empire.** During this tetrad millions of Jews and Christians were martyred and the Muslim attempt to conquer the world was thwarted by Charlemagne.

# BLOOD RED MOONS ON JEWISH FEASTS

**2014**

**April 15**



**PASSOVER  
(Pesach)**

**Oct. 8**



**TABERNACLES  
(Sukkot)**

**March 20, 2015**



**Adar 29-Nisan 1**

**JEWISH  
NEW YEAR  
FOR KINGS  
OF ISRAEL**

**2015**

**April 4**



**PASSOVER  
(Pesach)**

**Sept. 28**



**TABERNACLES  
(Sukkot)**

© Holly Deyo, 2015 Next Biblical Tetrad : 2582-2583

4. **March 30, 842 – Sept. 12, 843. Fall of the Holy Roman Empire.** Muslims rose again this time to defeat the Holy Roman Empire that martyred millions of Jews and Christians.

5. **April 9, 860 – Sept. 22, 861. 2<sup>nd</sup> Defeat of the Muslim Empire.** During this tetrad, Muslims attempted to conquer the world a second time and were defeated by Europe. In 861 Muhammed al-Mudabbir arrived in Egypt and tripled the tax on Christians and Jews. Because so many couldn't pay, they filled the prisons. Again, millions of Jews and Christians were martyred.

6. **April 2, 1493 – Sept. 15, 1494. Columbus Discovers the New World.** This tetrad was noted for the Spanish Inquisition where the Jews were expelled from Spain. Columbus is credited for discovering America.

7. **April 13, 1949 – Sept. 26, 1950. Nation of Israel Reborn on May 14, 1948.** After being dispersed throughout the world for 2,000 years, the Jewish people reclaimed Israel and declare a nation. One year later, the UN accepted them. Dead Sea Scrolls found.

8. **April 24, 1967 – Oct. 6, 1968. Six Day War June 5–10, 1967.** Jerusalem was restored as the capital of Israel and the Temple Mount was seized by Israel for the first time in 2000 years.

9. **April 15, 2014 – Sept. 28, 2015. Financial markets shaken globally.** Jonathan Cahn wrote the book, *The Mystery of the Shemitah*, tying Biblical tetrads, Shemitahs and major world events together. He says the 2015 Shemitah:

- Wiped out an estimated 16% of the British markets
- Wiped out 18% of the French markets
- Wiped out 25% of the German markets
- Wiped out 4,000 points from the Indian markets
- Wiped out 12,000 points from the Brazilian markets
- Wiped out \$2 trillion of the U.S. markets and
- Wiped out a massive \$11 trillion from the world's financial realm.<sup>151</sup>

It didn't stop there. Financially 2016 launched *the worst* year since the Great Depression. In the first three weeks the Dow dropped nearly 10%. Fears renewed that Wall Street was entering a downturn dwarfing the one that caused the 2008 recession. January 16<sup>th</sup> saw the Dow sink 550 points by mid-day. Before closing, the DJIA had recovered 300 points and closed down just 1.56%. In the weeks following, markets jerked up and down like

financial rickrack. Leading economists cite the historic drop in oil prices as the leading reason for such volatility. In January crude oil plunged to \$26.30 a barrel – the lowest since May 2003 due to a global oil oversupply. Experts argue that it will sink lower. Two other fear factors are the threat of global recession and whether or not big banks will be able to withstand these forces.

During the second week of January, China allowed the biggest fall in the Yuan in five months, which caused stock market trading to be suspended twice. China's currency continued to drop since a 2%-devaluation in August 2015 touched off a global stock market selloff.

In May 2015 the Dow peaked at 18,312.39. Nine months later it'd lost 13%.

Speaking at 2016 World Economic Forum, William White, former chief economist of the Bank of International Settlements, warned that the global financial system has become dangerously unstable. He said, "The situation is worse than it was in 2007. Our macroeconomic ammunition to fight downturns is essentially all used up. Debts have continued to build up over the last eight years and they have reached such levels in every part of the world that they have become a potent cause for mischief. It will become obvious in the next recession that many of these debts will never be serviced or repaid, and this will be uncomfortable for a lot of people who think they own assets that are worth something. The only question is whether we are able to look reality in the eye and face what is coming in an orderly fashion, or whether it will be disorderly. If [the Federal Reserve] raises rates it'll be nasty. If they don't raise rates, it just makes matters worse. Things are so bad there is no right answer."<sup>152</sup> Could this be the stepping-stone for martial law or the coming one world currency – or both? European banks are looking to "bail-ins", which means any deposit holder above the guarantee of €100,000 (\$130K) will have to help pay for it.

In February 2016, CNN Money headlined: "fear has taken over stock markets around the world."<sup>153</sup> Globally stocks officially slipped into a bear market the week of February 8<sup>th</sup> closing more than 20% below recent highs. Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany and Japan's market are already in bear status. (Investopedia defines a bear market as a 20% or more downturn in multiple broad market indexes, like the Dow or Standard & Poor's, for at least two months.)<sup>154</sup> The truism used to say that "When America sneezes, the world gets a cold." Financial gurus have added, "As goes China, so goes the world." As of February 13, 2016, the U.S. had avoided bear territory, but with the Dow off 13% from its high and the Nasdaq off 17%, people are strapping in anticipating a wild ride.

## **BIBLICAL TETRADS AND OTHER CELESTIAL EVENTS**

The 2014 – 2015 tetrad is like no other as this one also includes a total solar eclipse and a Supermoon. This is when, while in new moon phase, the moon orbits closest to Earth making it look larger. Rabbis teach that blood moons are signs from God indicating judgment on Israel while solar eclipses are signs for judgment on Gentiles. The 2014-2015 Biblical Tetrad is special in yet another way. It's a Shemitah year.

### ***So What's a Shemitah Year?***

In the old days as prescribed in Exodus 23:10-11 and Deuteronomy 15:1-11, farmers didn't work their fields every 7<sup>th</sup> year. No planting or harvesting was done, so farmers and fields alike had time to rest. Whatever crops re-seeded were given freely to anyone. Shemitah, meaning "to release" was also a time when loans to Hebrews were wiped away by creditors. Today, rabbinical measures permit food to be grown, but they are in keeping with various interpretations of how Shemitah should be applied to Israel now. Likewise, rabbinic provisions are in place allowing banks and individual creditors to continue debt collection.

During a Shemitah year, God can raise nations or tear them down. This can affect their economy and wealth, their military and leaders, and the health and wellbeing of the citizens. Is it coincidence that the five greatest economic crashes of the last 40 years – 1973, 1980, 1987, 2001 and 2008 – all occurred in Shemitah years? Or that the Yom Kippur War occurred in the Shemitah year of 1973 and the 9/11 terror attacks coincided with the end of Shemitah in 2001?

### ***Jubilee***

If these things weren't enough to pique prophetic interest, factor in that 2015 is also a Jubilee year, which occurs every 50 years. This provided for two consecutive years where people didn't farm, all Israelites who had sold themselves into slavery were set free, and all land that had been sold reverted to its original owners. (See Leviticus

25:8-22) Jubilee hasn't been celebrated in Israel for thousands of years because it involves returning land according to tribal designation. Since it's unclear which tribes today's Jews belong to – most are probably from Judah and Levi – land can't be re-apportioned along tribal lines.

## IDENTICAL BIBLICAL TETRADS IN 33 AD AND 2015

Every feast, lunar and solar event lined up identically. On our Gregorian calendar it looks like this:

**NOTE:** The first Easter or Resurrection Sunday occurred on the Jewish Feast of Firstfruits on Nisan 16, 33 AD

Jewish Calendar 33 A.D. (Nisan 3793) & 2015 (Nisan 5775): Identical Feasts, Holidays, Solar Eclipse & Blood Moon						
<b>March</b>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 First day of Spring 	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
<b>April</b>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 † Passover Sacrifice Jesus' crucifixion Good Friday	4  Blood Moon Passover (Pesach) Feast of Unleavened Bread
5 First Fruits Passover (Pesach) Feast of Unleavened Bread – Easter, Resurrection Day	6 Passover (Pesach) Feast of Unleavened Bread	7 Passover (Pesach) Feast of Unleavened Bread	8 Passover (Pesach) Feast of Unleavened Bread	9 Passover (Pesach) Feast of Unleavened Bread	10 Passover (Pesach) Feast of Unleavened Bread	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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Contrast the positive side of Shemitah and Jubilee with the ominous warnings of a rare Biblical Tetrad and solar eclipse, and it could be a very prophetic time.

After 2015, with or without a Supermoon or solar eclipse, the next Biblical Tetrad won't take place for 568 years.

<b>Jewish Calendar 33 A.D. (Nisan 3793) &amp; 2015 (Nisan 5775):                      Identical Feasts, Holidays, Solar Eclipse &amp; Blood Moon</b>						
September						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Rosh Hashana Feast of Trumpets	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Yom Kippur Day of Atonement	24	25	26
27	28 <b>Blood Moon</b> Sukkot Feast of Tabernacles	29 Sukkot Feast of Tabernacles	30 Sukkot Feast of Tabernacles			
October						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Sukkot Feast of Tabernacles	2 Sukkot Feast of Tabernacles	3 Sukkot Feast of Tabernacles
4 Sukkot Feast of Tabernacles	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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## The Star of Bethlehem – 2015

This event is even more remarkable than the very rare Blood Moon Tetrads, but it received a lot less attention.

God issued over 5,000 promises in the Bible and none are so meaningful as those that we can actually see. Every time a rainbow appears Christians remember God's promise that He'd never again destroy the world by water.

The Blood Moon Tetrad was a last *warning*. The second appearance of the Star of Bethlehem is a monumental *promise* of His soon return. It's happened only once since Jesus' birth over 2000 years ago in summer of 2015. Can it be coincidence that a final warning and a unique promise come within few weeks of each other?

A few nights ago, this author looked out into the pre-dawn sky. It was inky dark in this late October sky. The pending sunrise brought the palest pinks peeking over a slumbering horizon. Everything was dark and peaceful. Quiet. Two vibrant stars burst silently from indigo skies. So astonishingly bright, they blocked out fellow stars with their blinding light. They twinkled between branches of a Honey Locust tree, merging to create a dazzling, mesmerizing superstar.

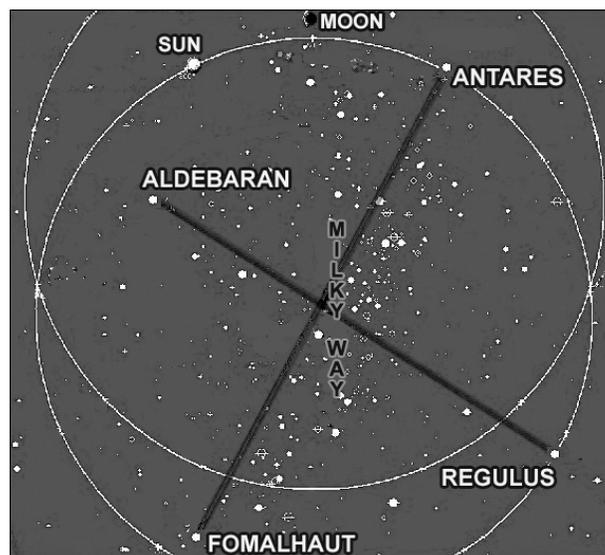
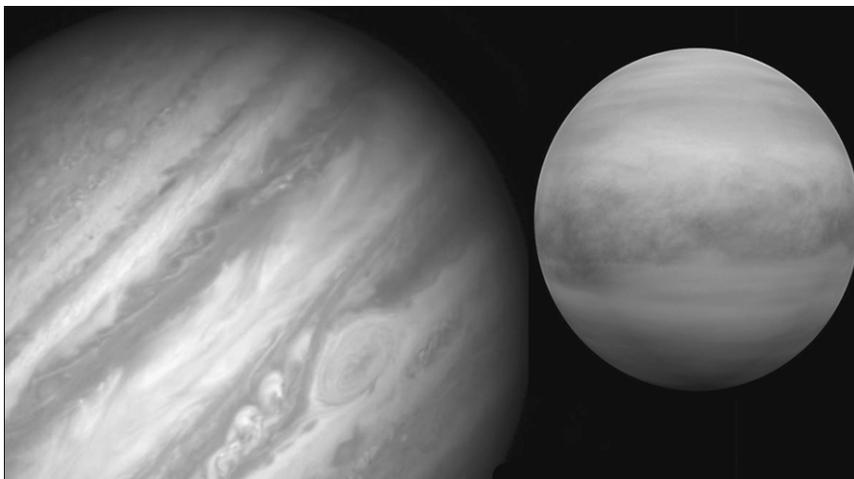
As exceptional as this it was, it paled compared to when Jupiter and Venus converged three months earlier on June 30. These two planets passed less than  $\frac{1}{3}$  degree apart making them explode in brilliance.

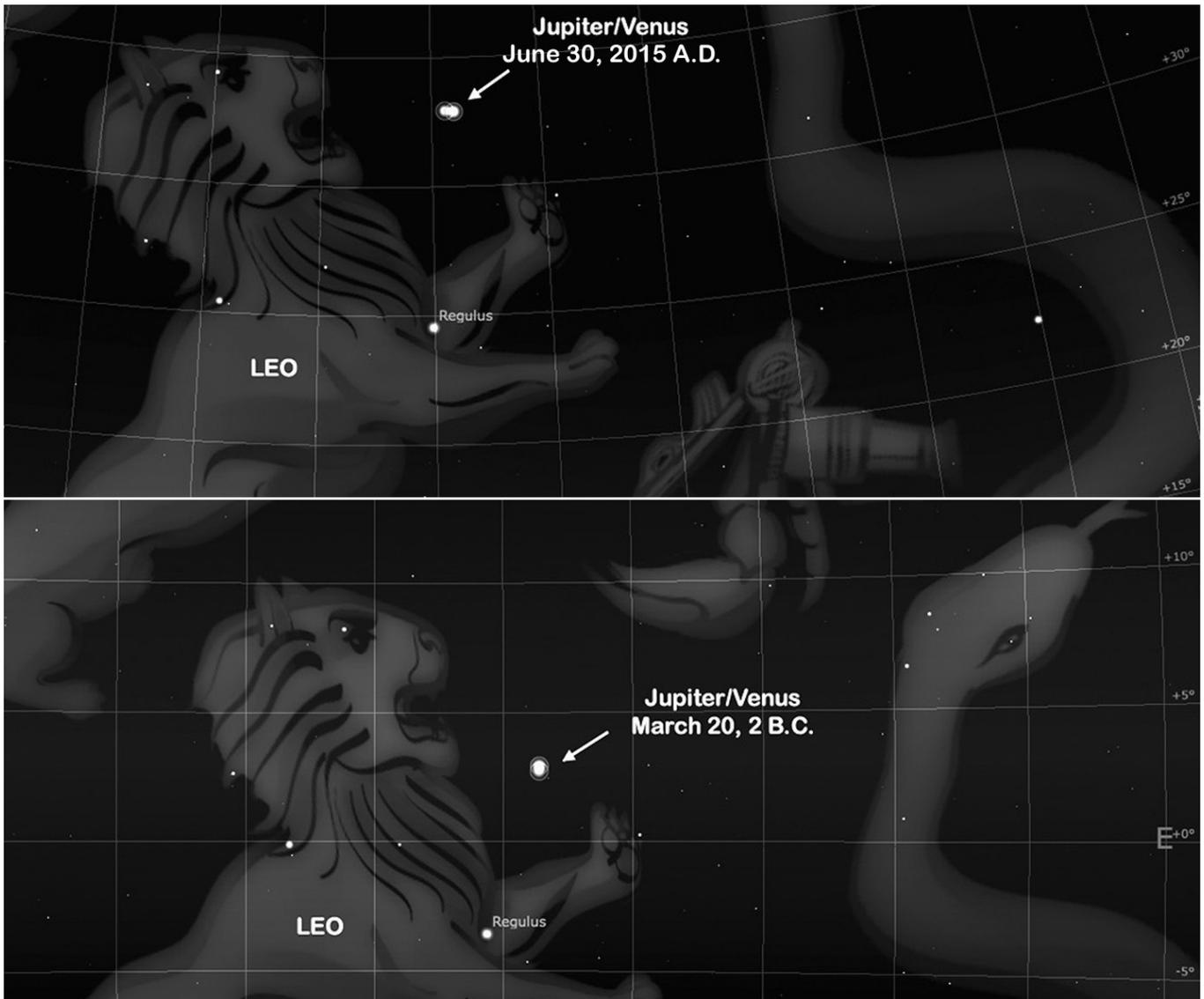
Scientists try to debunk the importance of the Star of Bethlehem saying it didn't appear over a single night, but over months. This makes the spectacular sight even more inspiring. It was no flash in the pan. These two huge planets, Jupiter and Venus blended together as one, would have shined as a fierce beacon especially without interference from cities' light pollution. It would have been visible for hundreds of miles – further if the earth weren't curved. They are a message of kindness and love. What else can describe God sending His son to suffer in our place, take on the punishment for believers if not ultimate mercy born out those two gifts?

Another important sign is that this conjunction occurs in the constellation of Leo (the Lion), also known as "the Lion of Judah" – another name for Jesus. Not only do Venus and Jupiter appear to be nearly touching, forming the single Star of Bethlehem, the conjunction occurs with Regulus – the "King" star. And Jesus is the King of Kings.

In Leo, the bright star Regulus, one of four "royal stars", sits right below the lion's mane. It, along with the three other royal stars, Aldebaran, Fomalhaut and Antares, form a fixed cross in the heavens.

Few people realize just how amazing God's sky is. Yes, we admire its magnificence especially spectacular viewed away from heavily populated areas. It's even more awe-inspiring when learning that God laid out in 48 constellations the story of Jesus the Redeemer. Most everyone has heard of the 12 zodiac signs, but each constellation has another three small constellations, called side decans, that help flesh out God's revelation in the stars. In yet a third layer, smaller stars flesh out God's message. This is like Biblical skip codes that reveal much prophecy, if done properly using Hebrew.





The first 16 constellations, including the 12 smaller ones and the first four major signs, tell the story of his birth and life prophecy. The second four major signs reveal His dealings with His people, the Elect; and the last four tell the story of His coming triumph over Satan. And look what's right next to the Lion of Judah in the sky – the Serpent, juxtaposing ultimate good next to ultimate evil.

## THE GOSPEL IN THE STARS

God's astronomy isn't to be confused with astrology as there are important distinguishing differences.

First, God's celestial map doesn't include planets. Astrology does.

Second, astrology has been characterized as "Satan's counterfeit life guide" compared to God's unchanging message presented in the stars, which tells the story of Jesus' birth, crucifixion, resurrection and triumph over Satan.

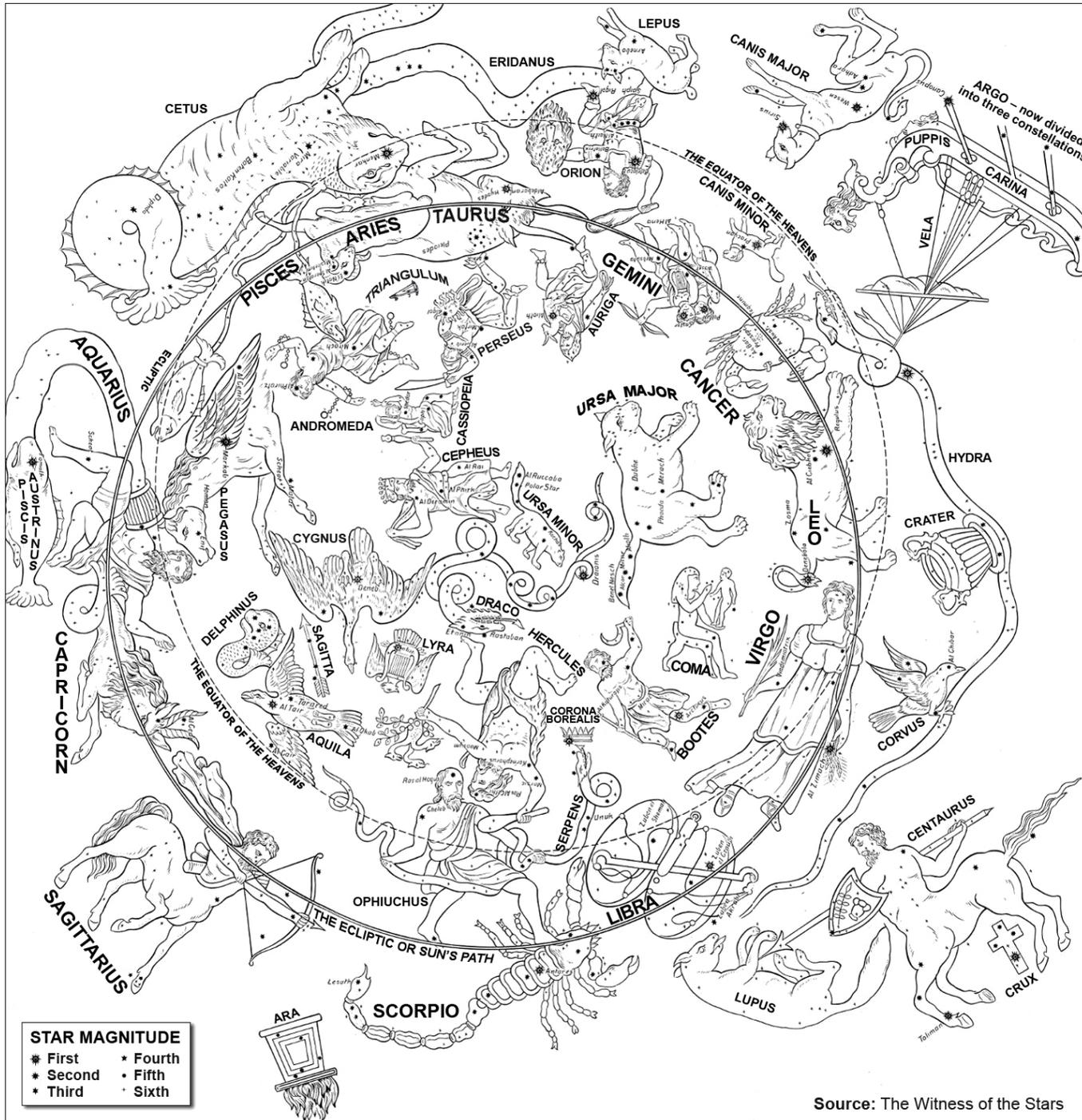
Third, astronomy is God-centered. Astrology is *self*-centered implying people can get along quite well without the Creator if you just use the tool of astrology.

Fourth, astrology divides the 12 major constellations into neat and tidy segments of 30° each. In God's celestial masterpiece the segments aren't equal. Some constellations "invade" each other's space. This is really how life is – a lot of overlap and connectivity.

Fifth, astrology's zodiac runs counter-clockwise and is presented as seen from above, where Satan arrogantly places himself. God's celestial map is seen as His children would see it from Earth because they are for signs for us, and it "runs" clockwise, the right way, in keeping with the laws of physics.

Sixth, God's astronomical zodiac was created when he made the heavens. Man's astrological zodiac came into being somewhere around 2,000 BC give or take, – some 600 years before Moses penned the Torah, the first five books of the Bible. Three constellations, the Bear, Orion and the Pleiades are mentioned in Job – the oldest book in the Bible, which dates back to 2150 BC While the first organized system of astrology is generally credited to the Babylonians around 1800 BC, "Newer" zodiacs carved in ivory were recently discovered sealed in Croatian caves for over 2,000 years.

Last, according to the *Book of Enoch*, Fallen Angels taught humans astrology and God's good, holy angels taught man astronomy.



## BOOK OF ENOCH

The *Book of Enoch* (whose validity is sometimes called into question) clearly writes that Fallen Angels, the Watchers, taught mankind astrology, not astronomy.

"And Azazel taught men to make swords, and daggers, and shields, and breastplates. And he showed them the things after these, and the art of making them; bracelets, and ornaments, and the art of making up the eyes, and of beautifying the eyelids, and the most precious stones, and all kinds of colored dyes. And the world was changed. And there was great impiety, and much fornication, and they went astray, and all their ways became corrupt. Amezarak taught all those who cast spells and cut roots, Armaros the release of spells, and Baraqiel astrologers, and Kokabiel portents, and Tamiel taught astrology, and Asradel taught the path of the Moon."<sup>155</sup>

After mankind learned these arts, everything on Earth went sideways. Enoch continues in the next verse. "And at the destruction of men they cried out; and their voices reached Heaven. And then Michael, Gabriel, Suriel and Uriel, looked down from Heaven and saw the mass of blood that was being shed on the earth and all the iniquity that was being done on the earth."

Enoch mentions how Uriel, one of God's good and holy angels gave him information on astronomy. Enoch writes, "And I saw how the stars of Heaven come out, and counted the Gates out of which they come, and wrote down all their outlets, for each one, individually, according to their number. And their names, according to their constellations, their positions, their times, and their months, as the Angel Uriel, who was with me, showed me. And he showed me everything, and wrote it down, and also their names he wrote down for me, and their laws and their functions."<sup>156</sup>

## GOD'S MESSAGE

Since the beginning, all 48 constellations have always been represented by the same symbol. Capricorn isn't shown as a goat in one chart and a horse in another. All 48 major and minor constellations form one continuous story when *read in the right order*.

God's celestial map begins at Virgo with Jesus' birth from the Virgin Mary, not at Aries as is done in astrology. Joseph Seiss, American theologian and Lutheran minister, wrote that the interior passages of the Great Pyramid also recount the story of the Redeemer and His People. Keep in mind that this massive stone "science vault" was built at least as early as 2,175 BC. Some date it to 2,560 BC while others put its construction much earlier. Seiss details much in 1882 book, *The Gospel in the Stars*, which you can download for free on the Internet. This stone triumph is also a prophetic calendar for huge events like the destruction of Solomon's Temple in 70 AD, the Exodus of Israel from Egypt in 1446 BC, the start of World War I in 1914 and even the Great Depression in 1929. To decode it, substitute years for inches like in 2 Peter 3:8 when days are substituted for years.

Interestingly the Egyptian zodiac places the Sphinx as a marker between the Woman and the Lion. There is no sphinx or Great Pyramid in constellations so it is a unique designation. The "sphinx", meaning "to bind together closely" in Greek has the head of a woman and the body of a lion, tying together the beginning and the end of this celestial story. In other words it joins together this prophetic story, starting at Virgo and ending at Leo, to read God's eternal message to the world.

God painted it across the skies so everyone could read his message. It's written a universal language that doesn't require translation or bookbinding. It overcomes time, location and possible misunderstandings and is always present for people to read. If you want further information read Rev. Ethelbert William Bullinger's 1893 definitive work, *The Witness of the Stars*. It's free to download on the Internet. The history of Jesus is indisputable for Christians and every other human being. Whether people can read or not, whether they are educated or not, they can look at the stars and see, KNOW, God's unchangeable message.

While the Tetrad is an awesome signal, a warning linked to many events involving Israel and other nations' treatment of her, the reappearance of the Star of Bethlehem, this re-announcement of Jesus' coming, is unique. There is nothing like it. It is a blessing beyond measure of God's mercy, a promise, that He is sending His son – soon.

## Chapter 8: Signs in the Sun

*"And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. —Joel 2:30-31 (NKJV)*

*And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars... —Luke 21:25 (NKJV)*

*"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. —Matthew 24:29 (NKJV)*

Most people don't give the Sun a second thought unless it's cloudy and they had planned to work on their tan or too much heat had caused their tomato plants to drop blossoms or roses to shrink. We always think pleasantly of the Sun as that constant fiery disk that keeps us warm and lights our days.

And why wouldn't we? At 4.5 billion years, the Sun's only halfway through its life before running out of fuel. The Sun isn't a stagnant ball of gas. It's gradually, very slowly, getting hotter and brighter.<sup>157</sup> As time passes scientists see more evidence that our star is an evolving body.

People experienced these changes first-hand when sunlight felt like needles piercing their clothes and burned their skin, and caused them to squint more than usual from its blinding rays. Fifteen years ago when we still lived in Australia, the ozone hole was at its largest ever. In Sept. 2000, it stretched over 11.5 million square miles, roughly the size of Africa.<sup>158</sup> While the hole opens up over Antarctica, the absence of its protective shield can be felt all over the globe.

Gardeners report leaves scorched and bleached by harsh rays. On a larger scale, too much UV hurts most grain crops in addition to peas, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, cauliflower, beans, squash, broccoli and carrots. People and animals see more skin cancer, cataracts and weakened immune systems. So while we want the Sun to keep steady, it's far from doing so.

### *The Sun Goes Nuts*

In 2003, even those barely interested in the Sun took notice of its wild antics. Our star went nuts and even NASA termed its behavior as "haywire".<sup>159</sup> Even though solar maximum had passed – the supposedly downward, quieter side of its 11-year cycles, the Sun shot off its largest ever X-ray solar flare. To understand just how off the chart exceptional this was, you have to know how solar flares are classed.

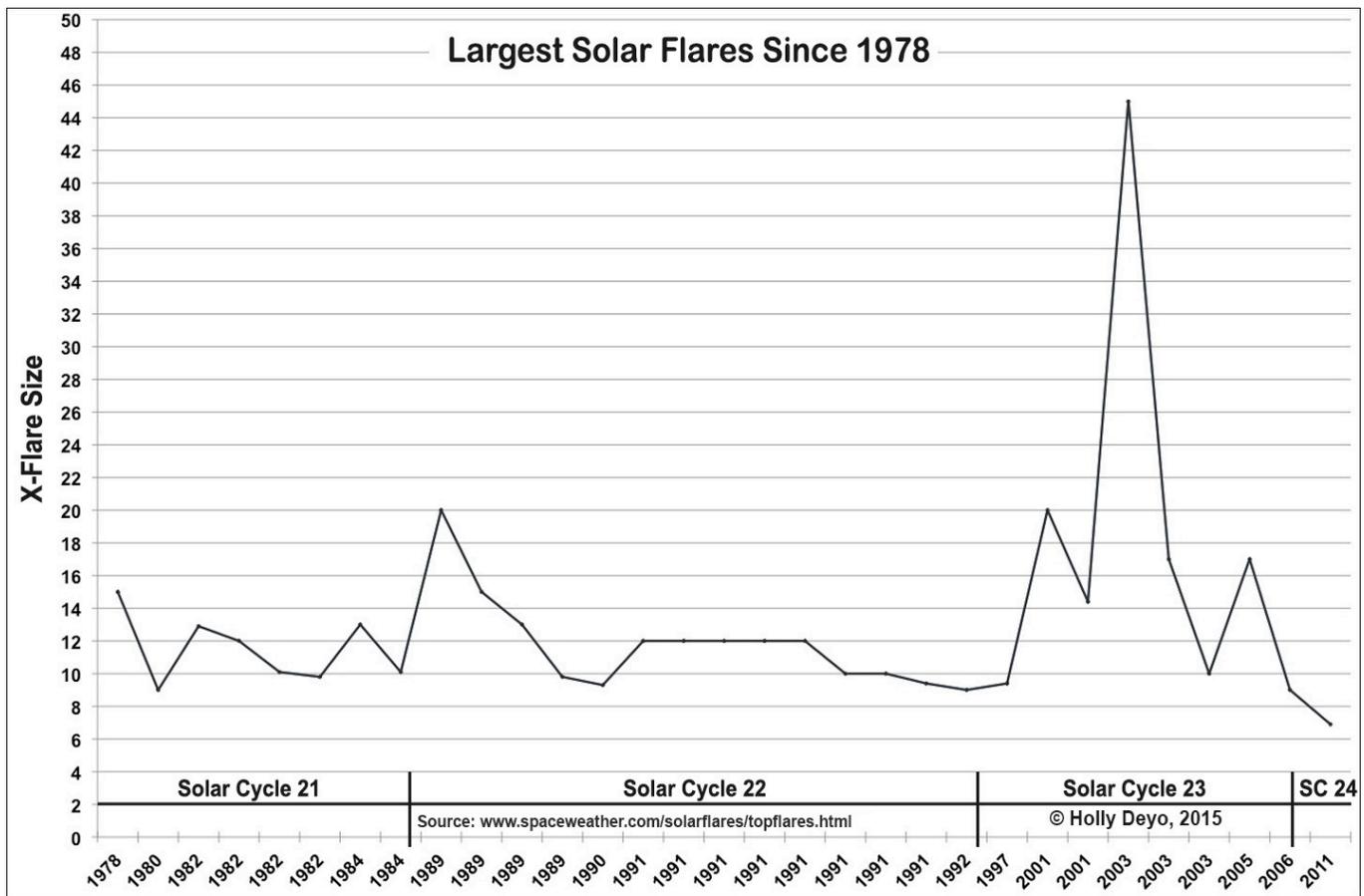
It's really simple with flares dumped into four categories, B, C, M, and X. Each of these letter ratings is further divided 1-9. An X has 10 times the strength of an M and 100 times the power of a C. It's like a Richter scale for flares. B's and C's are so run-of-the-mill, no one pays much attention to them. M's start to attract notice as they can cause short radio blackouts at the poles and minor radiation storms that could hurt astronauts and people living on the International Space Station.

X's are literally in a different class and can exceed an X9, but it's rare. It was very impressive when a string of eight X10 and X12 flares pummeled Earth in 1991. That was mighty, but not the best the Sun had to offer. In April 2001, approaching the middle of Solar Cycle 23, the Sun unleashed a CME (coronal mass ejection) on April Fool's Day. Auroras were seen as far south as Mexico and southern Europe. That was nearly unheard of as they mainly display across America's Upper Midwest or across northern Europe.

The very next day the Sun spat off an X20 flare. Fortunately it was aimed away from Earth or the damage could have been disastrous.

Every solar cycle (usually about 11 years) produces flares and sunspots though some are busier than others. On March 10, 1989, the Sun unleashed an X20 flare that targeted Earth. Auroras were seen as far south as Texas and Florida. That was the positive side. It was beautiful. Canada took the brunt and the storm caused a massive power grid failure in Quebec, which lasted 12 hours and March in Canada can be brutal. "In less than 2 minutes, the entire Quebec power grid lost power. During the 12-hour blackout that followed, (6) million people suddenly

found themselves in dark office buildings and underground pedestrian tunnels, and in stalled elevators. Most people woke up to cold homes for breakfast. The blackout also closed schools and businesses, kept the Montreal Metro shut during the morning rush hour, and closed Dorval Airport.



"The Quebec Blackout was by no means a local event. Some of the U.S. electrical utilities had their own cliff-hanger problems to deal with. New York Power lost 150 megawatts the moment the Quebec power grid went down. The New England Power Pool lost 1,410 megawatts at about the same time. Service to 96 electrical utilities in New England was interrupted while other reserves of electrical power were brought online. Luckily, the U.S. had the power to spare at the time...but just barely. Across the United States from coast to coast, over 200 power grid problems erupted within minutes of the start of the March 13 storm. Fortunately none of these caused a blackout."<sup>160</sup>

### *The Carrington Event*

On the morning of September 1, 1859, amateur astronomer Richard Carrington ascended into the private observatory attached to his country estate outside of London. After cranking open the dome's shutter to reveal the clear blue sky, he pointed his brass telescope toward the sun and began to sketch a cluster of enormous dark spots that freckled its surface. Suddenly, Carrington spotted what he described as "two patches of intensely bright and white light" erupting from the sunspots. Five minutes later the fireballs vanished, but within hours their impact would be felt across the globe.

That night, telegraph communications around the world began to fail; there were reports of sparks showering from telegraph machines, shocking operators and setting papers ablaze. All over the planet, colorful auroras illuminated the night-time skies, glowing so brightly that birds began to chirp and laborers started their daily chores, believing the sun had begun rising. Some thought the end of the world was at hand, but Carrington's naked eyes had spotted the true cause for the bizarre happenings: a massive solar flare with the energy of 10 billion atomic bombs. The flare

spewed electrified gas and subatomic particles toward Earth, and the resulting geomagnetic storm—dubbed the "Carrington Event"—was the largest on record to have struck the planet."

When telegraphs did come back on line, many were filled with vivid accounts of the celestial light show that had been witnessed the night before. Newspapers from France to Australia featured glowing descriptions of brilliant auroras that had turned night into day. One eyewitness account from a woman on Sullivan's Island in South Carolina ran in the Charleston Mercury: "The eastern sky appeared of a blood red color. It seemed brightest exactly in the east, as though the full moon, or rather the sun, were about to rise. It extended almost to the zenith. The whole island was illuminated. The sea reflected the phenomenon, and no one could look at it without thinking of the passage in the Bible which says, 'the sea was turned to blood.' The shells on the beach, reflecting light, resembled coals of fire."

The sky was so crimson that many who saw it believed that neighboring locales were on fire. Americans in the South were particularly startled by the northern lights, which migrated so close to the equator that they were seen in Cuba and Jamaica. Elsewhere, however, there appeared to be genuine confusion. In Abbeville, South Carolina, masons awoke and began to lay bricks at their job site until they realized the hour and returned to bed. In Bealeton, Virginia, larks were stirred from their sleep at 1 a.m. and began to warble. (Unfortunately for them, a conductor on the Orange & Alexandria Railroad was also awake and shot three of them dead.) In cities across America, people stood in the streets and gazed up at the heavenly pyrotechnics. In Boston, some even caught up on their reading, taking advantage of the celestial fire to peruse the local newspapers.

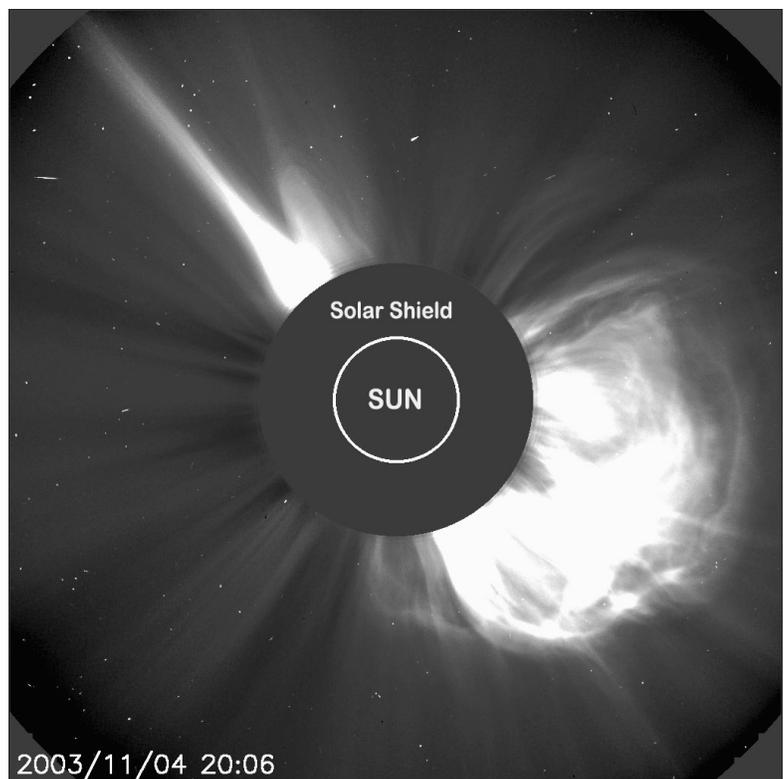
Ice core samples have determined that the Carrington Event was twice as big as any other solar storm in the last 500 years. What would be the impact of a similar storm today? According to a 2008 report from the National Academy of Sciences, it could cause "extensive social and economic disruptions" due to its impact on power grids, satellite communications and GPS systems. The potential price tag? Between \$1 trillion and \$2 trillion.<sup>161</sup>

While researchers and writers generally label Carrington as the biggest ever flare, its size has never been pinpointed. Since instruments weren't in place then to give accurate measurements it's hard to get a good accounting. Most scientists don't even hazard a guess.

The Cliver-Svalgaard paper states this event was "exceptionally large", but people want to know just how big and how exceptional. To that end the pair looked at five markers: how severely it disturbed the ionosphere, how fast solar particles traveled to Earth, how strong was the solar wind, how much it interfered with radio communications and how far south auroras reached.

They found that the Carrington flare was a big event, but not the biggest. They discovered that for those five markers it had had close rivals and a few "superiors", but it's the only event in the last ~150 years that's at or near the top for all five. They conclude, "September 1859 was not markedly larger (if it was larger at all) than that of the top tier of subsequent great storms, contrary to the findings of Tsurutani et al. (2003)."<sup>162</sup>

Now why is this important? A century and a half later, the BIGGEST solar event ever shook astronomers' perception of "normal".



## The Mother of All Flares

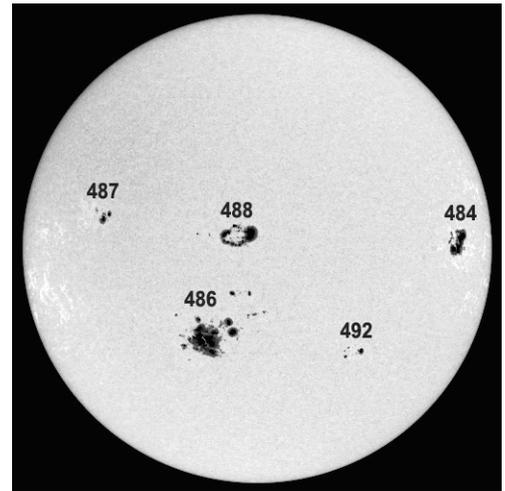
"In November 2003, an 'X' solar flare, the strongest of solar storms, temporarily disabled many satellites, killed one satellite completely and burned out an instrument on a Mars orbiter. The crew of the International Space Station took shelter, reporting elevated radiation readings and 'shooting stars' in their own eyes. In September 2005, a string of 'X' solar flares caused lesser disruptions to major power grids and knocked out the GPS system completely for ten minutes."<sup>163</sup>

For many of us who watch solar activities, it was a time of shock and disbelief seeing something this massive.

El Sol was quiet. The Sun's face had been nearly spotless and Cycle 23's solar maximum had passed two years earlier. Suddenly in late October, three giant sunspots appeared, each one larger than the planet Jupiter. Sunspot 486 was the biggest in 13 years. The Sun was having a really bad face day. Big sunspots usually unleash the largest flares and this was no exception. Over two weeks this triple threat shot off 11 X-class flares, which it took the entire previous year to match.

"Normal" X-flares usually register as an X1 or an X2, but this flare pegged a never-before-seen X28. It took a while for scientists to absorb this rare event. Then it morphed into something freakish. Employing an innovative technique, physicists in New Zealand used the upper atmosphere as a giant X-ray detector. Their findings, published by the *American Geophysical Union* on May 17, 2004, revealed the **true size** of this flare – a colossal, incomprehensible X45! It's unparalleled energy equaled 50 billion atomic bombs. Normally CMEs take two to three days to reach Earth, but this record-breaker shot across the expanse in less than 18 hours.

Researcher Neil Thomson from the University of Otago commented. "'This makes it more than twice as large as any previously recorded flare, and if the accompanying particle and magnetic storm had been aimed at the Earth, the damage to some satellites and electrical networks could have been considerable.' Their calculations show that the flare's x-ray radiation bombarding the atmosphere was equivalent to that of 5,000 Suns, though none of it reached the Earth's surface, the researchers say."<sup>164</sup>



## IMPACT!

After the X45 blast, "many satellites in earth orbit began behaving erratically. Airlines redirected polar flights to below the Arctic Circle, resulting in major delays across the US.

"In other parts of the world, the situation wasn't much better. Power grids in Sweden were overloaded resulting in prolonged blackouts. Power consumption at two nuclear stations in New Jersey had to be reduced to prevent similar disruption. In Japan another spacecraft was lost. On the International Space Station astronauts had to take shelter in shielded parts of the station. The effects were felt even farther out in the solar system. The radiation monitors on-board the Mars Odyssey were burnt out, overloaded by the very emission they were build to study. Spectacular auroras were witnessed on Jupiter. The Cassini spacecraft, on its way to Saturn, detected interruptions in radio communications. 6 months later, the CME shockwave was still going, as it brushed past the Voyager 2 spacecraft, then 7 billion miles from Earth."<sup>165</sup>

## 2012: Near-Catastrophe on Earth

The only thing that saved our bacon on July 23, 2012 was that the CME blast didn't aim at Earth. Had the massive cloud erupted just one week earlier, it was have hit Earth square-on. University of Colorado physicist Daniel Baker warned, "We would still be picking up the pieces" as it was THE most powerful storm in 150 years. Baker continues. "In my view the July 2012 storm was in all respects at least as strong as the 1859 Carrington event. The only difference is, it missed."<sup>166</sup>

Not only was this CME extremely powerful, it exploded off the Sun at rare speed. Normally, CMEs travel about 2,000mph, but this one rocketed away nearly four times that fast. Part of the reason for such extraordinary velocity is that another CME had travelled that same route just four days before. Then BANG! BANG! On July 23, two more CMEs shot off the Sun 10 minutes apart. In essence, the CME that erupted on the 19<sup>th</sup> ploughed a celestial path, like a bulldozer shoveling a clearing, which made extremely rapid travel possible for the next two. Should that July

2012 CME have had Earth in the cross hairs, you'd be cooking breakfast on a BBQ, not the stove – providing you'd stored enough propane. We missed catastrophe by one week.

## WHEN HELL COMES TO EARTH

NASA stated. "Analysts believe that a direct hit ... could cause widespread power blackouts, disabling everything that plugs into a wall socket. Most people wouldn't even be able to flush their toilet because urban water supplies largely rely on electric pumps."<sup>167</sup>

Steve Tracton of the *Washington Post's* Capital Weather Gang put it this way. "Electric power grids, communications and navigation systems (including GPS), and satellites (including weather) could be damaged beyond repair for many years. The consequences could be devastating for commerce, transportation, agriculture and food stocks, fuel and water supplies, human health and medical facilities, national security, and daily life in general."<sup>168</sup>

"According to a study by the National Academy of Sciences, the total economic impact could exceed \$2 trillion or 20 times greater than the costs of a Hurricane Katrina. Multi-ton transformers damaged by such a storm might take years to repair."<sup>169</sup>

This is a solar EMP – an Electromagnetic Pulse kiss of death. Its effect is similar to a nuclear bomb detonated at high altitude. Today it would cause much more damage than the Carrington Event because people rely on technology for nearly everything. Baker states. "In my view the July 2012 storm was in all respects at least as strong as the 1859 Carrington event. The only difference is, it missed."<sup>170</sup>

"In February 2014, physicist Pete Riley of Predictive Science Inc. published a paper in *Space Weather* entitled 'On the Probability of Occurrence of Extreme Space Weather Events.' In it, he analyzed records of solar storms going back 50+ years. By extrapolating the frequency of ordinary storms to the extreme, he calculated the odds that a Carrington-class storm would hit Earth in the next ten years.

"The answer: 12%.

"'Initially, I was quite surprised that the odds were so high, but the statistics appear to be correct,' says Riley. 'It is a sobering figure.'<sup>171</sup>

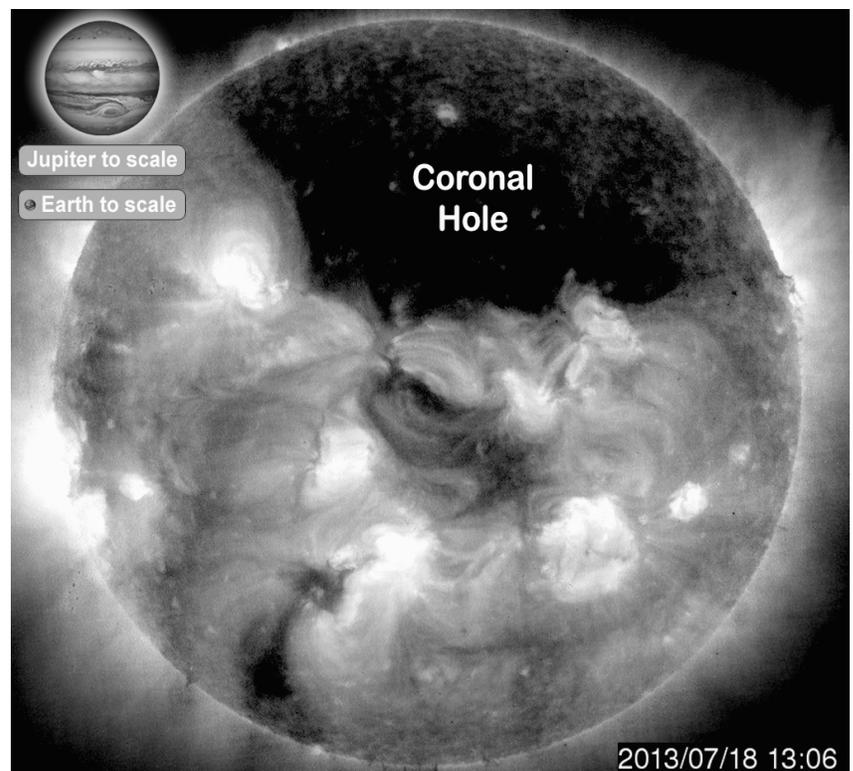
All of these events show the Sun isn't behaving as it should and possibly setting up for unexpected and unpleasant activities. There's more.

## Strange Doings on the Sun

We like the Sun and other major things people count on to be constant. Stable. Reliable. It gives a feeling of control, and we breathe sighs of relief when they act the way they're supposed to. However, the Sun isn't behaving. Something is amiss.

Again, the chart of Solar Cycles 22, 23 and 24, shows where the highest sunspot activity occurred for each of the approximately 11-year cycles. Within a cycle, it's not uncommon for two peaks to occur. The first peak *always* has the largest number of sunspots, which can be followed by a second peak with a lower count. Solar Cycle 24 is the only cycle ever to have more sunspots in its second peak than the first.<sup>172</sup>

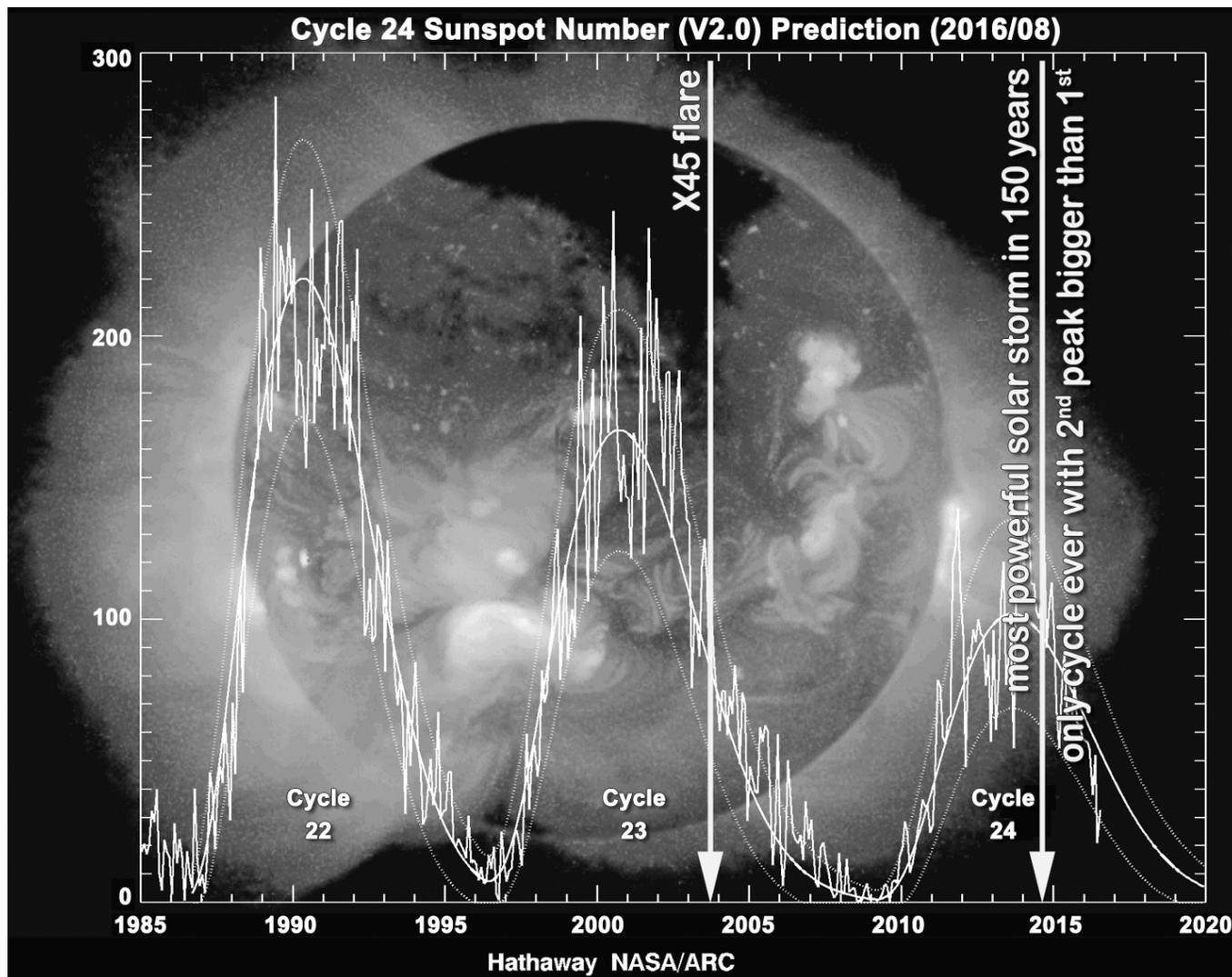
**Image:** Massive coronal hole on July 18, 2013. (Credit: European Space Agency/SOHO)



A second oddity is 24's extreme weakness. David Hathaway, head of the solar physics at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama states, "'I would say it is the weakest in 200 years.' Scientists say that solar activity is stranger than in a century or more, with the sun producing barely half the number of sunspots as expected and its magnetic poles oddly out of sync."<sup>173</sup> Scientists wonder whether Earth is gearing up for a mini ice age.

In conjunction with this, increased solar activity usually goes hand in hand with more sunspots. The graph for Solar Cycle 24, shows it considerably less busy than in either 22 or 23, yet it shot off a CME that could have altered life as we know for years to come.

A fourth very strange anomaly is how the Sun went through this cycle's magnetic pole reversal – the oddest on record. While scientists stress how weird this was, they say they weren't concerned. During a normal reversal, the magnetic field weakens at both poles to the point of zero and then they re-emerge with the opposite polarity for north and south. They usually do this flip at the same time.



However, in Solar Cycle 24, they reversed about 16 months apart. The North Pole reversed first, so it had the same polarity as the south for a while. Then the South Pole changed and they were once again on track.<sup>174</sup>

A fifth bit of strangeness just has to be seen to fully comprehend. It has to do with coronal holes. Coronal "hole" is a bit misleading as there really isn't a hole in the Sun. The dark area contains less solar material and it's cooler than the rest of the Sun. This opening in the magnetic field is where solar winds are most likely to blow out particles three times faster than elsewhere on the Sun.

SkyLab first spotted coronal holes in the early 70s and scientists are still learning about them. This much they do know, which pinpoints another oddity in this solar cycle. During solar maximum, the number and size of coronal holes decreases because the magnetic fields on the Sun are about to reverse. Solar Sunspot Cycle 24 produced an unusual double maximum. The first hit at the end of 2012 and the second came in early 2015. Yet this massive

hole, formed close to solar maximum and covers about 25% of the Sun's surface that faces Earth. That is massive! Just the visible part is enormous and there's no telling how far it extends on the Sun's back side.

## *Last Thoughts on Solar Signs*

The Sun is evidently changing more than many people thought. Flare instruments were only calibrated to measure up to X17 though two X20s hit in 1989 and 2001. No one thought flares could ever exceed these two monsters or equipment would have been adjusted accordingly. A dozen years ago, the Sun shot off a gargantuan, largest-ever X45 flare that shocked even the most jaded scientists. It occurred when solar activity should have been winding down and was the most potentially lethal flare on record. Its CME had the energy of 50 *billion* atomic bombs and took only one-fourth the time usually required to reach Earth. 2003 saw the fastest, biggest, strongest solar flare ever.

Then in 2014 during one of the Sun's weakest-in-200-years cycles, it shot off the most powerful solar storm in 150 years. In conjunction with low sunspot numbers for Solar Cycle 24, the Sun was still turbulent, when it should have been quieter. Weak Solar Cycle 24 is the only one in history to have twin peaks with the second peak producing more sunspots than the first.

Then 24's magnetic pole swap didn't occur simultaneously as it should have. Instead they reversed in a first-ever event 16 months apart.

Last, El Sol exhibited a monster-size coronal hole close to solar maximum in 2013 when it should have shown much smaller ones. It's unsettling that the Sun is becoming somewhat erratic and unpredictable. One has to wonder what is next on its agenda and if it's gearing up for End Times.