

Prophecy Lesson 11  
**Heavenly Signs for the Second Advent of Christ**  
January 14, 2021

As I write this, my heart weeps for what's happened to our nation - as the Democrats, supported by the media, big Tech and foreign actors took the government of the People, by the People and for the People - away from the American People. Adding salt to the wound, the Republicans essentially stood by and let it happen. Our Constitutional Federal Republic is no more! When elections can be successfully rigged, stolen and gotten away with, it will most certainly happen again. Before long, a totalitarian Marxist – Socialist government will begin to replace the freedoms and liberties Americans have so long taken for granted. America has been under God's judgment for some time now, and as our rejection and rebellion against Him increased in recent decades, God continued to lower His hedge of protection around our nation so that by 2020, America finally got the corrupt government and leadership it deserves. Now it is no longer possible to see how we as a nation can ever go back to 'the way things were'. Importantly, this is exactly the way it was prophesied to be before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

I've mentioned that God is and always has been in complete control, and His decision to give ascendancy to a Biden presidency may not be what many of us wished, expected or prayed for, but it does provide clarity that makes the timing for the end time events in God's plan (as revealed in the next lesson) entirely plausible. Three important changes involving America must happen before the start of the seven year Tribulation that culminates in Christ's return. The Biden administration will most certainly accelerate these changes to fit with God's plan and timing. First, America must diminish greatly. America can no longer be the world's dominate nation. That role will soon shift to a confederation of ten nations, led by the Antichrist, who will control every aspect of life on this planet during the Tribulation. Second, a Biden administration will enthusiastically return to participate in the globalist effort to create the reigning world government for the Tribulation. And third, watch for America to abandon Israel and join the rest of the world (Zechariah 12:3) in an unholy, end-time alliance against both Israel and God.

For those who hoped and prayed for a different outcome or that God did not answer your prayers, I've come to believe that our prayers have, indeed, been answered. We've been unable to see what He has done because of our desire to view God's plan with worldly eyes. So, the first thing we must do is to turn our spiritual eyes and attention away from America and the things of this world and, instead, focus on and give undivided attention to Jesus Christ alone, our one and only true hope and salvation. Only recently have I come to realize that God has given us two heavenly signs, in our time, that I believe confirm Christ's Return and that His Return is coming soon. The signs are the August 27, 2016 Venus Jupiter conjunction and the December 21, 2020 Jupiter Saturn conjunction. In what follows, I want to share what they've come to mean for me, based on what the Bible says, and what's happening in our world today.

I will pick up where I left off at the end of the previous lesson and continue the discussion about the heavenly sign(s) for Christ's Second Coming and their significance with respect to both the chronology being presented in the next lesson and the huge political change currently taking place in America, because I believe they are connected. Having presented the case in previous lessons that the 12 August 3 BC 'heads up" and 17 June 2 BC Christmas Star Venus Jupiter conjunctions were the two primary First Advent heavenly signs, that precisely and completely fulfilled Scripture as recorded in the Matthew 2 narrative, my assumption regarding heavenly signs for the Second Coming was that God would use

identical or similar signs to point the world to Christ's Second Coming. The first step to determine what signs might qualify was to conduct the two hundred year analysis of Venus Jupiter conjunctions for the period between 1900 and 2100 (which I did in 2015 – described in lesson 5) to see if a set of conjunctions like the Christmas Star pair appeared anywhere in the twenty first century that might qualify as end time heavenly signs. The data revealed only one likely conjunction - the **August 27, 2016** Venus Jupiter conjunction. This conjunction meets the requirements for a Second Advent heavenly sign because:

1. It was the only major conjunction (<0.1 deg separation) to appear during the 200 years between 1900 and 2100.
2. It was the mirror image (evening star verses morning star) conjunction, with nearly identical parameters to the August 12, 3 BC 'heads up' Christmas star.
3. It was last of four conjunctions in a rare conjunction Quartet (2014-2016) whereas the August 12, 3 BC conjunction was the first of four to appear in an equally rare conjunction Quartet (03-01 BC).
4. It appeared in 2016 when all the other end time signs were appearing, converging and/or increasing in frequency and intensity exactly as prophesied in Scripture.

The conjunction was an identical mirror image to the 'heads up' conjunction seen by the wise men so it was ideally suited to be the 'heads up' sign for Christ's return. But, the problem is there are no other Venus Jupiter conjunctions in the data table capable of forming a conjunction pair with the 2016 appearance in this century. The next major conjunction (<.1 deg sep) will not appear until 2107 and no extraordinary conjunctions (<.01 deg sep) like the Christmas Star will appear in the next 2,000 years, before the available conjunction data ends in 4164. After viewing the 2016 conjunction on the Starry Night software in 2015, another concern was that the conjunction would only appear as a single star in one time zone (GMT -3), in the central Atlantic Ocean. This meant that most of the world would not be able to actually observe the 2016 conjunction when it appeared in that location. But, it was clear from Scripture that few, if any, alive at the time saw the August 12, 3 BC conjunction other than the wise men, so I concluded it wasn't a requirement for the world to actually observe an end time 'heads up' heavenly sign for the Second Advent because we now have accurate computer imaging capable of sharing critical heavenly signs with the entire world. So, I tucked the 2016 conjunction away in my data file hoping that some other heavenly sign might come to light that would complement the 2016 appearance - before God's end time plan actually began to unfold.

I wish I could say that the intuition and the perseverance of a modern day wise man was my motivation to travel to Bermuda in 2016 to observe the August 27 conjunction. By then, my enthusiasm about it being a Second Coming 'heads up' sign was beginning to fade. My real objective in going was to confirm that what the wise men actually saw in August 3 BC was a single star ('his star' in Matthew 2:2) because, as mentioned before, there was concern among my online colleagues that a conjunction with one tenth of a degree of separation between the planets would likely appear as two stars in our present atmosphere and sky conditions. Today, I am forever grateful that my wife and I made the trip. I am certain we were the only two people on the island of Bermuda who saw the August 27, 2016 conjunction because it was definitely not a stargazer's evening in Bermuda. It had rained on and off all day with broken to mostly overcast skies and it wasn't until about 30 minutes before the star appeared when we realized we might actually be able to see it. At our observation spot overlooking the western Atlantic, the wind was blowing (my tripod blew over and the magnifying lens fell off the I-phone) so for about five of the ten minutes or so between 8:00-8:10 PM (30 minutes after sunset), until the star descended into a bank of clouds about 10 degrees above the horizon, we just stood there together, staring at Venus, the single star the wise men had observed 2,018 years earlier that appeared ten

months before the birth of Jesus Christ. The only usable photo images I obtained were all magnified 10X and, in the only unmagnified I-phone photo we had, the star was partially masked by clouds. After returning home and checking the stargazer blogs and NASA websites, I could not find a single photo of the star taken in the GMT-3 time zone and all online photos outside GMT-3 showed two planets. There were a few stargazer reports from eastern Brazil (GMT-3) claiming to have observed the conjunction as a single star, but no accompanying photos. In the end, the observation results from the appearances of God's First and Second Advent 'heads up' heavenly signs were exactly the same: In 3 BC, the wise men and maybe a handful of others, alive at the time, actually observed the First Advent August 12, 3 BC 'heads up' Venus Jupiter conjunction, and in 2016, my wife and I on Bermuda and maybe a handful of others in eastern Brazil, alive at the time, actually observed the Second Advent August 27, 2016 'heads up' Venus Jupiter conjunction. Fortunately today, thanks to computer imaging, the world can see the Second Advent 'heads up' conjunction (see computer images in lesson 2) because it appears exactly in the computer image like it appeared to us with the naked eye. Praise God!

From the time it was observed in 2016 until about a month ago, I could not be certain the August 27, 2016 conjunction was the 'heads up' heavenly sign for Christ's Second Coming, because a second heavenly sign to match with the Christmas Star pair had not yet come to light. But everything changed in November when I observed the December 21, 2020 Jupiter Saturn conjunction for the first time on my Starry Night Pro. The conjunction formed exactly like the Christmas Star, only in slow motion (relatively speaking), and it would be a single star, exactly like the Christmas Star, but less brilliant. It would appear on the shortest, darkest day of the year in sky conditions that enabled Saturn to be seen clearly from about 30 minutes after sunset. The conjunction was only 25 degrees from the Sun, but on the dark December evenings, both planets could be observed individually and together for nearly two hours after sunset (between 4:45- 6:45 PM locally). Most importantly, as the conjunction formed throughout December, it became clear why God chose a Jupiter Saturn conjunction instead of a Venus Jupiter conjunction like the Christmas Star to be His Second Advent confirmation sign. In 2 BC, God's audience for the Christmas Star was the Jewish people in Israel, where Christ was born, so the star only needed to appear in one time zone. Venus Jupiter conjunctions form and separate quickly so they appear as a single star in only one or two time zones, whereas Jupiter Saturn conjunctions, which form much more slowly and remain visible as a single star for up to 24 hours, can be seen all around the world. Today, the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ and His soon return has been preached all around the world, so it makes perfect sense that God would use a Jupiter Saturn conjunction to let the whole world, not just a few time zones, know what's coming. By December 7<sup>th</sup>, two weeks before Jupiter and Saturn became a single star, I was convinced that the August 27, 2016 'heads up' and the December 21, 2020 'confirmation' conjunctions were God's Second Advent heavenly signs. The question became, what did the conjunctions mark or point to in God's end time plan. Do the actual dates of the conjunction appearances mean something or are they just meant to be a warning or a heads up? I've come to believe it might be all of the above.

As I've indicated before, Israel is God's prophetic clock and the key to understanding His end time plan. The Bible clearly reveals in Zechariah 12:3 and 14:2, that by the beginning of the Tribulation, the entire world, including the United States, will be aligned against Israel. The reality is that except for America, the world has been mostly aligned against Israel for much of its 73 year history. At the UN, Israel is the only country annually targeted by double-digit UN General Assembly resolutions and countless measures in other UN bodies such as the Human Rights Council. So it shouldn't be surprising that every year Israel is on the receiving end of more resolutions and anti-Israel measures than the other 192 UN member states combined. I emphasize this so you can understand how critical the relationship between Israel and America is (despite the U.S. not appearing in Scripture) because I believe America's close bond

with Israel is the only thing restraining God from pouring out His wrath on this nation. In his Prophetic Manifesto, Part 1, The Death of America, Dr. David Reagan provides sobering words about the state of our nation today, *“America is finished. We as a nation have turned our back on God. We have kicked Him out of our schools and out of the public arena. We have declared Him to be off limits... We are in the process of becoming a thoroughly secular and pagan nation. And in the process we are courting the wrath of God.”* The destiny of Israel and America is undeniably linked. As America goes, so goes Israel... and the rest of the world. When America’s once strong relationship with Israel finally ends, the stage will be set for the pouring out of God’s wrath on the entire world during the Tribulation. With this in mind, I decided to do a timeline of major events, both positive and negative, that reflect the historic relationship between Israel and America from the time of Israel’s rebirth as a nation in 1948 until today. The positive events are shown in bold:

<u>Date</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Event</u>
<b>1948</b>	<b>Truman</b>	<b>First to recognize new state of Israel, 11 minutes after Declaration of Independence</b>
<b>1973</b>	<b>Nixon</b>	<b>Provided massive sea/airlift of weapons and support for Israel in Yom Kippur War</b>
1979	Carter	Fall of Iran, rise of Iranian Revolutionary regime – sworn enemy of Israel
<b>1979</b>	<b>Carter</b>	<b>Camp David Accords, Israeli –Egyptian Peace Agreement</b>
1991	Bush	Madrid Conference – land for peace directive that initiated ‘Two State Solution’ by giving Israel’s land to the Palestinians in exchange for peace
1993	Clinton	Oslo Accords – formalized Two State Solution wherein Israel to give up land while PLO makes no concessions
<b>1994</b>	<b>Clinton</b>	<b>Israel – Jordan Peace Agreement</b>
1996	Clinton	Camp David Accords – Arafat rejects plan for Israel to give up 80% of West Bank and make East Jerusalem PLO Capital
2001	Bush	Roadmap to Peace - Continuation of Two State Solution efforts to divide Israel
2005	Bush	Forced Gaza evacuation of Israeli settlers (Katrina)
2009	Obama	Humiliated Israeli PM delegation on first visit to Obama White House
2011	Obama	Supported overthrow of pro-Israel Egyptian government by anti-Israel Muslim Brotherhood during Arab Spring
2014	Obama	Ordered Israeli PM to cease fire as Israel was succeeding in Operation Protective Edge (Gaza War) against Hamas-tunnel threat
2015	Obama	Funded and supported opposition attempt to overthrow PM Netanyahu in Israeli national election
2016	Obama	Boycotted PM Netanyahu speech to joint session of Congress on Iran Nuclear deal
2016	Obama	Orchestrated and funded the Iran Nuclear deal - placing Israel and other Arab nations in nuclear peril

*Appearance of the August 27, 2016 Venus Jupiter “heads up” conjunction*

<b>2017</b>	<b>Trump</b>	<b>Recognized Jerusalem as the legitimate capital of Israel</b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>Trump</b>	<b>Withdrew the U.S. from the Iran Nuclear Deal</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>Trump</b>	<b>Moved the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>Trump</b>	<b>Recognized the Golan Heights as sovereign Israeli territory</b>
<b>2019</b>	<b>Trump</b>	<b>Trump Peace Plan unveiled – Recognized Israeli sovereignty and forced Palestinian concessions</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Trump</b>	<b>Abraham Accords- Normalization between Israel, UAE and Bahrain</b>

*Appearance of the December 21, 2020 Jupiter Saturn "confirmation" conjunction*

2021 Biden - ?? Abandon Israel at the UN?? Restore Iran nuclear deal?? Elevate Palestinians and return to land for peace effort that God detests??

This is incredible! What are the odds that the only major Venus Jupiter conjunction to appear within 200 years and the only major Jupiter Saturn conjunction to appear in the last 800 years could so precisely bracket the term of the 45<sup>th</sup> president of the United States. The August 27, 2016 conjunction appeared two months before president Trump was elected and the December 21, 2020 conjunction appeared one and a half months after his tenure ended in a rigged election. Caroline Glick succinctly summed up the final chapter of Trump's presidency with these words: *"For 72 years, U.S. presidents sought to achieve peace between Israel and the Arab world. For 72 years, they largely failed. What for so long eluded presidents from Dwight D. Eisenhower to Barack Obama seems to have come effortlessly to President Donald Trump. In the space of just four months, together with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Trump has achieved four peace deals between Israel and Arab states—twice the number achieved by all his predecessors combined. Last Thursday, Trump announced Morocco has joined the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain and Sudan in the Abraham Accords normalization agreements with Israel. Three or four more Arab states are likely to join the circle of peace in Trump's final weeks in office."*

Sadly, this may all end quickly in the Biden administration.

I believe the dates of the Second Advent conjunction appearances are extremely important and they provide both a warning and a heads up for believers in Christ and the rest of the world. First the dates: I indicated at the beginning of this lesson that God is in complete control and it is He who raises up and puts down kings. For those who prayed and voted for Trump and feel their prayers were not answered, I assure you they were. The president likely received more than 80 million votes in the last election, more than any other presidential candidate in history, yet he is no longer our president. How is this possible? It doesn't matter how many votes were cast because God is in control, He decides who reigns and who doesn't and it is clear from what happened in the election that Donald Trump completely fulfilled his mission in God's eyes and now it is time for God's end time plan to begin. The Bible provides a remarkably similar parallel to what just happened in America with the ancient kingdom of Judah before that nation was destroyed by the Babylonians. I know this lesson is getting long, but I want to share it with you because the God who was in control when Israel was destroyed the first time is the same God in control today.

I indicated previously that Israel is God's timepiece, but Israel is also the key to understanding Bible prophecy. In the Advent chronologies paper presented in the next lesson I indicate the Season of the Lord's return was based on the average lifespan of a nation being 200 years. The template that supports the calculation was Israel's kingdom period. At Solomon's death in 930 BC, the nation became divided, with the ten northern tribes becoming the Kingdom of Israel and the two southern tribes becoming the Kingdom of Judah. Of the twenty kings who ruled in Israel until it was destroyed by the Assyrians in 723 BC, not a single king "did what was right in the eyes of the Lord", so the northern kingdom, which was essentially a pagan nation, only endured for 207 years (in line with the lifespan of a nation). Of the twenty kings who ruled in Judah, eight "did what was right in the eyes of the Lord", thus, Judah was blessed and endured for 344 years before being destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 BC.

Let's look at Judah's final years in the Kingdom period to see what God revealed through His prophets and signs that provides illumination regarding the Second Advent signs because it reveals a clear parallel

with what's happening between Israel and America today. Of the last seven kings who reigned in Judah, only one "did what was right in the eyes of the Lord". The period began with Manasseh who, during his 55 year reign (696-642 BC), turned Israel completely away from God. *"The Lord said through his servants and prophets: "Manasseh king of Judah has committed these detestable sins. He has done more evil than the Amorites who preceded him and has led Judah into sin with his idols" (2 Kings 21: 10-11).* Judah continued down this path for more than 70 years, through the reigns of Manasseh, his son Amon, and until the eighteenth year of the reign his grandson, Josiah, in 622 BC. Josiah was eight years old when he became king in 640 BC. In Josiah's eighteenth year, the Book of the Law was found in the temple that had fallen into disrepair. When the book was read to the king, he recognized the great sin that had been committed by his fathers and the nation. He tore his robes, repented and immediately gave orders to repair the temple, remove the idols from all the land and for the people to repent and to worship God alone. You can read this amazing story in 2 Kings 22 and 23. Josiah gathered an assembly at the refurbished temple, renewed Israel's covenant with God and he ordered the reinstatement of the Celebration of Passover. *"Not since the days of the judges who led Israel, nor throughout the days of the kings of Israel and the kings of Judah, had any such Passover been observed" (2 Kings 23: 22).*

Despite Judah's incredible turnaround, the nation's sin was so great that even King Josiah's efforts could not save Judah from God's wrath. Shortly after the Book of the Law was discovered in the temple, Josiah sent priests to the prophetess Huldah to inquire of the Lord what would happen to him and the nation because they had not obeyed or acted in accordance with the words written in the book. Huldah's response, in part was, *"This is what the Lord, the God of Israel says: I am going to bring disaster upon this place and upon this people... because they have forsaken me and burned incense to other gods and provoked me by all the idols their hands have made, my anger will burn against this place and will not be quenched... Tell the king of Judah... because your heart was responsive and you humbled yourself before the Lord... I will gather you to your fathers, and you will be buried in peace. Your eyes will not see all the disaster I am going to bring on this place" (2 Kings 22: 15-20).*

Twelve years after discovery of the Book of the Law, King Josiah died in battle (609 BC) and his sons immediately turned the nation back to the ways of their great grandfather, Manasseh and "did evil in the eyes of the Lord". Three months after Josiah's death, Pharaoh Neco of Egypt put Josiah's son Jehoahaz in chains and imposed a levy of one hundred talents of silver and a talent of gold on Judah. Four years after Josiah's death (605 BC) the Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem and thus began the occupation and 70 year period of Jewish captivity that would bring an end to Judah, with the total destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in 586 BC.

If God would not spare his chosen people from destruction then, he most certainly will not spare a world opposed to Israel from destruction today. Immediately after Josiah's death, Judah turned back to its evil and wicked ways against the Lord and the nation was destroyed. Today things appear to be even worse. The Democrats and the far left, who are clearly in denial of God, won't even allow the president to leave office with dignity. Nothing like what is happening now has ever happened in the history of American politics. Their actions are illegal, unconstitutional, they are petty and they have already begun to diminish America in the eyes of the world --- before the Biden administration even takes office. And, it's all for naught because God indelibly engraved the presidency of Donald J. Trump forever in the heavens with the August 27, 2016 and December 21, 2020 conjunctions. That is something they cannot change. I believe the signs, especially the December 21<sup>st</sup> conjunction, provide a clear warning to the Biden administration and America that God has now removed his hedge of protection around this nation. The incoming administration's future and the future of this nation depend heavily, if not entirely, on how America treats Israel in the coming months and years. It is not good that the incoming

president's mentor and predecessor was the worst, by far, of the thirteen American presidents who dealt with Israel, because it looks like many from the Obama administration are coming back to their old jobs, where they will undoubtedly pick up where they left off. If they succeed, God's judgment cannot be far behind.

I want to conclude this lesson by emphasizing that the appearance of the 2016 and 2020 Second Advent heavenly signs should be a source of great joy and hope for those who put their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. All the pieces of the end time puzzle are coming together, exactly as foretold in Scripture by the prophets and Jesus Himself. He is coming again, very soon. It's time to spread the word and to prepare for the next incredibly exciting event for believers in God's plan – the Rapture of the church. Don't be distracted by what's likely to come out of Washington (Open borders, Medicare for all, the Green New Deal, free college tuition, higher taxes, a crumbling economy etc.), but rather, keep an eye on what's happening with Israel and with the formation of a one world government. Instead, focus your attention on the one and only way to eternal life. Jesus said, "*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me*" (John 14:6). The next four lessons address the Second Advent chronology and the coming Rapture of the church. If you read the Revelation passages I recommended previously (chapters 6-18), you'll know why you do not want to be left behind after the Rapture. I have two recommendations to supplement these lessons as we prepare to enter the unsettled waters that lie ahead. For those not in the prophecy class getting this email, our Pastor David Mattson, began what I believe will be a life changing sermon series on the book of Revelation on January 10<sup>th</sup>. You can hear or watch the sermons on line at the following link: <https://fccangels.org/sermons/>. Also, Pastor Robert Jeffress, in his Pathway to Victory series, just began a sermon series titled: A Place Called Heaven. For those looking forward to the Rapture – Heaven is our destination so this sermon series will help you prepare for an immortal, eternal life. It can be viewed online at the following link: [https://ptv.org/tv/?utm\\_source=&utm\\_medium=&utm\\_campaign=](https://ptv.org/tv/?utm_source=&utm_medium=&utm_campaign=). I will end this lesson with words of great hope from the chorus of a wonderful hymn:

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look long at His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His Glory and Grace.*