

September's Biblical Sign: Comet Nishimura

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JESUS SAID there would be “signs in the sun and moon and stars,” before His return (Luke 21:25).

We are seeing these signs today. During the past decade particularly, a slew of biblical eclipses and astronomical alignments have awed prophecy watchers worldwide.

Most recently, a comet discovered by an amateur astronomer is causing a stir in the watching community. I first heard about this comet, named after its Japanese discoverer, Hideo Nishimura, through some recently posted videos by Patrick from ‘Hourly Watch,’ Bob at ‘End Time Dream & Vision,’ and Aaron at ‘God a Minute’ (see the notes below for links).

Having dug into the specifics of this comet, here are some reasons I find it significant:

JUDGMENT SIGN

Since ancient times, comets have been viewed as harbingers of judgment or calamity. In fact, some researchers propose a connection between comets and the original calamity, Noah’s Flood. One theory is that a comet collided with earth, causing the Flood. Another theory proposes that comets were actually formed as a result of the Flood. This view, detailed by Walt Brown in his book, ‘In the Beginning, Compelling Evidence for Creation and the Flood,’ maintains that comets, which are essentially “cosmic snowballs” made of ice, rock and dust, were born from a coagulation of mud and water expelled at supersonic speeds from fractures in the earth’s crust, during the initial phase of the Flood. This jetting water, which Scripture calls the “fountains of the great deep” (Gen. 7:11), was expelled at various trajectories, far above earth’s atmosphere, sending giant muddy snowballs on random and far-flung orbits from which they periodically return, until they are eventually evaporated by the heat of the Sun. We call these giant snowballs, comprised of water and minerals like those found on earth, “comets.”

The association of comets with a global flood explains why these mysterious objects are, to this day, viewed as signs of judgment or calamity in virtually every culture. The Flood-association also adds a layer of meaning to Jesus’ statement, “As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man” (Matt. 24:27).

COMET NAME

The astronomer after which the newly discovered comet C/2023 P1 (Nishimura) is named, Hideo Nishimura, has a name with a threefold prophetic connotation:

The first name, Hideo, means “excellent man” “hero, manly” or “husband man.” This is significant because the returning Jesus is referred to as the “goodman,” “husband,” or “mighty man”:

“The goodman [husband or mighty man] is not at home, He is gone a long journey: He has taken a bag of money with him, and will come home on the appointed day” (Prov. 7:19, 20).

The second name, Nishimura, means “to go west.” This is significant because Jesus’ return is said to be as lightning flashes from “east to west” (Matt. 24:27).

Third, the Gematria value of the name Hideo Nishimura is 153, corresponding to the 153 fish, symbolic of Christians, who are “caught up” and brought to the Lord in John chapter 21.

So, in the name Hideo Nishimura we have a picture of the goodman returning at the appointed time, as lightening from east to west, and believers caught up to be with the Lord.

A LONG JOURNEY

Because Comet Nishimura has a more than 200-year orbit around the Sun, it is called a “long-period comet.” This is significant because the aforementioned goodman, Jesus, is said to be returning from a “long journey”:

“The goodman ... is gone a long journey ... and will come home on the appointed day” (Prov. 7:19, 20).

DISCOVERY DATE

Comet Nishimura was discovered on August 11–12, seven days before the biblical month of Elul began.

Elul is traditionally known as the “month of the bride.” Also, Elul marks the beginning of a 40-day period of repentance leading up to the Day of Atonement. According to Jewish tradition, every day during Elul, a trumpet is sounded as a warning that Judgment Day is near and fast approaching.

WEDDING SIGN

Comet Nishimura was discovered in the Constellation Gemini, the heavenly sign that depicts the wedding union between a man and woman.

Moreover, on the day the comet was discovered, the Moon also entered Gemini, where it is typically found for only about 48 hours each month. So, in an apt coincidence, the Comet Nishimura (Husband) and the Moon (Bride) were side-by-side in the Wedding Sign at the time of the comet's discovery.

Two weeks later, on August 26, Comet Nishimura entered the Constellation Cancer, the sign depicting the Bride's heavenly home prepared by Jesus, where it will remain for 10 days, until September 5. Thus, we have a picture of a betrothal, and the husband going to prepare a home for the bride for a period of 10 days:

"If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am" (John 14:3).

"[To the Church at Smyrna] 'you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life'" (Rev. 2:10).

THE RETURNING LION

On September 5, Comet Nishimura will enter the Constellation Leo.

On September 7—seven days before the Feast of Trumpets—the comet, still in Leo, will become visible to the naked eye.

According to E.W. Bullinger, Leo depicts the Lion of the Tribe of Judah—Jesus returning as Judge—and marks the end of the circle of the Zodiac. He writes: "In Leo we reach the end of the Revelation as in the inspired Word of God; and it is the end as written in the heavens."

With this in mind, it is significant that on September 14, the day before the Feast of Trumpets, Comet Nishimura passes directly over the star named Denebola, located at the very end of Leo's tail. The name Denebola means, "the Judge or Lord who cometh."

So, not only does the comet become visible as it passes through the final sign of the Zodiac, just before the Feast of Trumpets, it crosses over the star that marks the very end of the Lion's tail, which declares the coming of the Lord.

VIRGO AND THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS

On September 15, the Feast of Trumpets, Comet Nishimura will enter the Constellation Virgo, the sign that represents God's people, who are likened to virgins:

"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise" (Matt. 25).

At the same time, an asteroid named "Child" (4580) will be exiting the belly, or womb, area of Virgo, evoking the Sign of the Woman who is giving birth in Revelation 12, and the resurrection-rapture, which is likened to a "birth" (Isa. 26:19). The last time the asteroid named Child was found in Virgo was in 2019. The next time will be in 2027. However, neither of these instances coincide with the Feast of Trumpets.

CLIMAX

On September 17, the second day of the Feast of Trumpets, Comet Nishimura will reach perihelion, the closest point in its orbit to the Sun, and therefore its maximum level of brightness. As the comet signifying the "husband" is shining its brightest, Virgo, signifying the "virgins," will also be brilliantly illuminated, i.e., "clothed" with the adjacent Sun, with the Moon under her feet, as in the Sign of the Woman (Rev. 12:1, 2).

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Jesus said there would be "signs in the sun and moon and stars," before His return.

Comet Nishimura should be considered a biblical sign because . . .

- Its name evokes Scriptures about the return of the "goodman," Jesus.
- It was discovered seven days before Elul, the month of weddings and repentance.
- It was discovered in Gemini, the sign depicting the wedding union.
- It enters Cancer, the sign depicting the Bride's heavenly home prepared by Jesus, where it remains for 10 days, the symbolic duration of the Church's tribulation period.
- It enters Leo, the final sign depicting Jesus as the returning Lion, where it becomes visible to the naked eye, seven days before the Feast of Trumpets.

- Finally, Comet Nishimura enters Virgo, the virgin, on the Feast of Trumpets. At this time, the comet is reaching maximum brightness, and Virgo, clothed in the brilliance of the Sun, is 'giving birth' to an asteroid named Child.

In summary, the four constellations through which Comet Nishimura passes, from the time of its discovery in August, to the Feast of Trumpets—Gemini, Cancer, Leo, and Virgo—represent:

- A betrothal.
- The heavenly home prepared by Jesus, during the Church Age.
- The Lord returning as a Lion and Judge.
- The Rapture and end of the Church Age.

Having highlighted this compelling sign, we understand that biblical signs, like regular road signs, do not necessarily mark the exact destination, or endpoint, but simply indicate that it is near. No one knows the “day and hour” of the Rapture, not even the angels (Matt. 24:36). Nonetheless, in this year of unprecedented prophetic convergence, there is reason to believe that it is near indeed.

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NOTES:

1. Comet Nishimura on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcJu6-AUDN0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PhOtYeyYbdM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHVhfIMQcL0>

2. About Comet 2023 P1 (Nishimura):

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

<https://earthsky.org/tonight/new-comet-c-2023-p1-nishimura-bright-august-september-october-2023/>

<https://skyandtelescope.org/astronomy-news/new-comet-nishimura-may-become-naked-eye-bright/>

3. The Hebrew word translated “goodman” or “husband” in Proverbs 7, “*ish*,” also means “mighty man,” matching the “hero” or “manly” etymology of the name Hideo.

<https://biblehub.com/interlinear/proverbs/7-19.htm>

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/376.htm>

4. Hideo Nishimura etymology:

<https://www.behindthename.com/name/hideo>

<https://japanese-names.info/last-name/nishimura/>

Gematria value: <https://gematrinator.com/calculator>

5. Since the Sun symbolizes Jesus the Bridegroom, the Moon, the Sun’s heavenly counterpart, represents the Bride, or Church. The Moon is emblematic of the Church as it has no light of its own but relies entirely upon the Sun for its light (Ps. 19:4, 5; 84:11). Similarly, man has no light of his own, but relies entirely upon God.

6. Gemini – The Wedding Sign

<http://www.bible-study-lessons.com/Gemini.html>

<http://www.bibletruthonline.com/themeaningofthezodiac.htm>

<https://theway.i-am.site/2020/08/10/gemini-in-the-ancient-zodiac/>

7. Cancer – The Bride’s Home <http://www.bible-study-lessons.com/Cancer.html>

8. God typically gives a seven-day warning before bringing major judgment (Gen. 7; 41; Josh. 6).

9. Leo and the star Denebola: <https://www.bereaninsights.org/nugget/the-message-in-the-stars-leo/>

10. The wise virgins in Matthew 25 are those who have “oil” for their lamps, representing the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit that comes with knowing Jesus as Savior. The foolish virgins are also expecting the Messiah—Bridegroom, but do not know Jesus.

11. The Revelation 12 alignment is the ultimate “sign in the sun and moon and stars” as it involves all of the above: the sun, the moon, and various stars, asteroids, and comets.

12. Biblical timelines that suggest 2023 could be a pivotal year:

[https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-](https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/c2110f6238be4320ab5b1beefae3e963/Why%202023%20Is%20the%20Highest%20Rapture%20Watch%20Ever.pdf)

[35306783/documents/c2110f6238be4320ab5b1beefae3e963/Why%202023%20Is%20the%20Highest%20Rapture%20Watch%20Ever.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/c2110f6238be4320ab5b1beefae3e963/Why%202023%20Is%20the%20Highest%20Rapture%20Watch%20Ever.pdf)

[https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-](https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/586bfffdddeac4dc1b1448ea3c5c9b49b/ECLIPSE%20SIGNS%20JUBILEE%20AND%20AMERICA%20PROPHETIC%20DESTINY.pdf)

[35306783/documents/586bfffdddeac4dc1b1448ea3c5c9b49b/ECLIPSE%20SIGNS%20JUBILEE%20AND%20AMERICA%20PROPHETIC%20DESTINY.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/586bfffdddeac4dc1b1448ea3c5c9b49b/ECLIPSE%20SIGNS%20JUBILEE%20AND%20AMERICA%20PROPHETIC%20DESTINY.pdf)

[https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-](https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/5d9d83c6cb9944c5994d2473b600ad24/THE%20YEAR%20OF%20REDEMPTION%20-%20WHY%20MILLIONS%20WILL%20SOON%20GO%20MISSING%20rev%20b.pdf)

[35306783/documents/5d9d83c6cb9944c5994d2473b600ad24/THE%20YEAR%20OF%20REDEMPTION%20-%20WHY%20MILLIONS%20WILL%20SOON%20GO%20MISSING%20rev%20b.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/5d9d83c6cb9944c5994d2473b600ad24/THE%20YEAR%20OF%20REDEMPTION%20-%20WHY%20MILLIONS%20WILL%20SOON%20GO%20MISSING%20rev%20b.pdf)