

2024 Eclipse and the Sign of Jonah

T.W. Tramm (03/12/24)

“REPENT, or in 40 days your city will be overthrown!” Jonah warned the wicked inhabitants of Nineveh.

Then it happened: “The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth” (Jon. 3:5).

Even the King covered himself with sackcloth and commanded that “everyone call urgently on God, and give up their evil and violent ways” (vv. 8, 9).

Why was the whole city so quick to repent?

Besides Jonah’s warning, some Bible scholars believe the Ninevites were unsettled by a solar eclipse that occurred around that time. NASA data confirms that a famous eclipse mentioned in ancient cuneiform tablets, the *Bur-Sagle Eclipse*, occurred above the Assyrian city on June 15, 763 BC, about the time Jonah would have arrived and started preaching.

With the Nineveh eclipse in view, it is interesting to consider six coincidences around an eclipse that will darken the US on April 8, 2024.

1. JONAH’S FISH

The 2024 eclipse occurs just above the constellation Cetus, the sign that depicts the huge fish that swallowed Jonah as he was fleeing God’s command to go to Nineveh (Jon. 1).



2. SABBATICAL COINCIDENCE

The 2024 eclipse occurs exactly 398 Sabbatical weeks after the Nineveh eclipse of 763 BC:

$763 \text{ BC} + 398 \text{ weeks (2,786 years)} = 2024$

What's more, both eclipses (Nineveh and US) occur in the pivotal first year of a Sabbatical week.

3. JUBILEE CONNECTION

The 2024 eclipse occurs in a calculated Jubilee year. The Jubilee is declared on the Day of Atonement (Lev. 25), which is the day Jews traditionally read the Book of Jonah.

4. NUMBER OF JUDGMENT

The path of the 2024 eclipse is 120 miles wide, recalling the 120,000 inhabitants of Nineveh (Jon. 4:11).

5. SEVEN-YEAR WARNING

The 2024 eclipse path intersects the path of the 2017 American eclipse to complete a giant "X," or Hebrew letter "Tav," across the US.



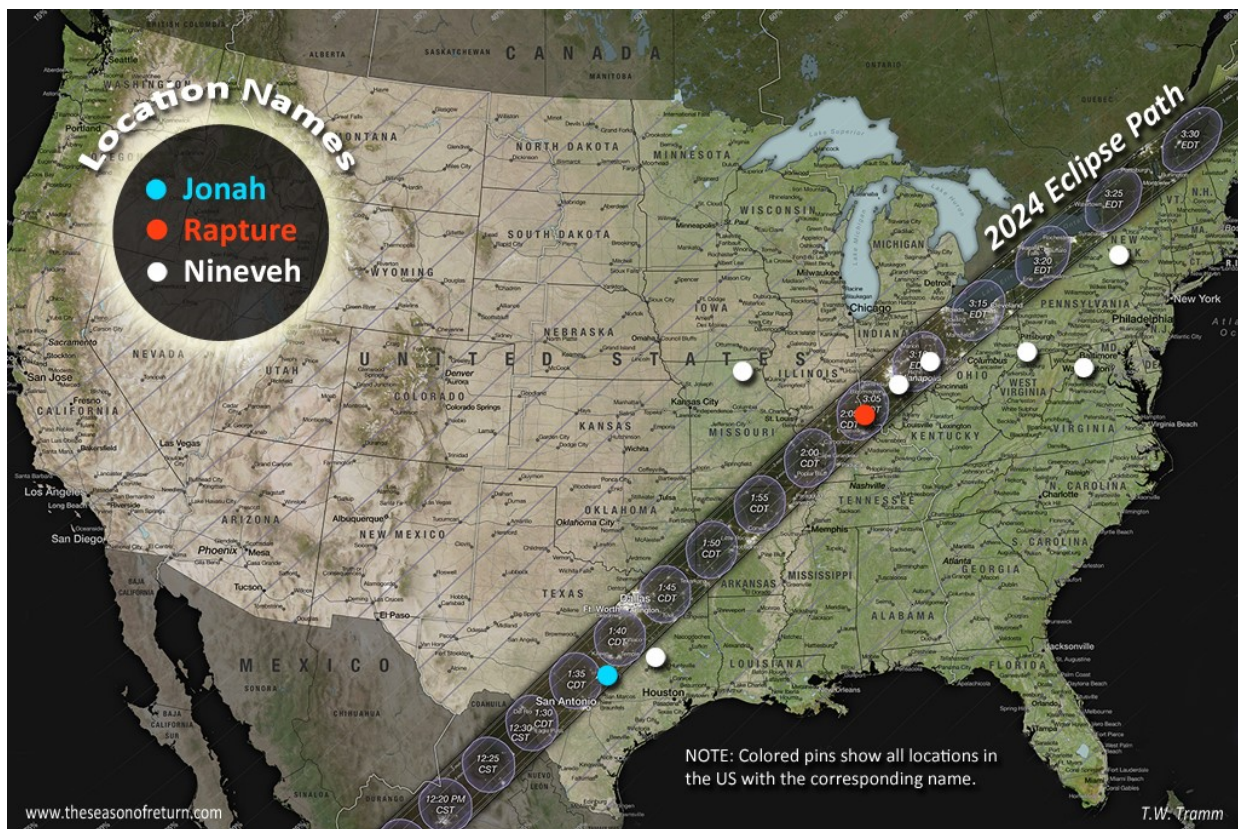
That the two eclipses are viewed as a collective sign is significant because the inaugural eclipse occurred on Elu1, the date that, according to tradition, Jonah began warning the Ninevites.

6. IN THE PATH

Understanding that there are no coincidences with God, it is significant that there is only one city named “Jonah” in the US—Jonah, Texas—and it is located in the path of totality of the 2024 eclipse.

Additionally, there are seven places named “Nineveh” in the US, and all of them are clustered around the eclipse’s path of totality. Two of the seven Ninevehs—Nineveh, Indiana, and Nineveh, Ohio—are located *within* the path of totality.

A third striking “coincidence” is that in close proximity to the two Ninevehs is a place called “Rapture,” Indiana, which is the only location named Rapture in the US.



To appreciate the unlikelihood of “Jonah,” “Rapture” and two “Ninevehs” being in the eclipse’s path of totality, consider that if the angle of the path was different by even a few degrees, this would not be the case.

SUMMARY AND FINAL THOUGHTS

An eclipse in Jonah's day may have helped spur the Ninevites to repentance. With this in mind, it is interesting to consider the following about the impending American eclipse:

- It occurs above the constellation Cetus, the sign that depicts Jonah's fish.
- It occurs in the first year of a Sabbatical cycle, exactly 398 "weeks" after the Nineveh eclipse.
- It occurs during a Jubilee, which is declared on the same day Jews read the Book of Jonah.
- Its path is 120 miles wide, recalling the 120,000 Ninevites.
- It completes the 2017 eclipse sign, which occurred on the date Jonah began warning the Ninevites.
- Its path crosses over locations named Jonah, Nineveh, and Rapture, as no other path could or has.

When the doubters of Jesus' day asked Him for a sign, He replied:

"A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah" (Matt. 12:39).

Jesus was referring to the fact that He would be in the tomb for three days, just like Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three days. But the lesson pertained to unbelief. Even though He had already performed numerous signs and miracles, it was not enough for the skeptics.

The same is true today. Despite the many signs God has been issuing, most people remain unconvinced of the nearness of His coming.

Could the American eclipse be a final sign for a wicked and adulterous generation?

And assuming it is, will it be heeded?

When the Ninevites believed and repented, their city was spared (Jon. 4:11). In the case of America—where even many Christians mock the notion that an eclipse could be a Divine warning—national repentance seems unlikely.

NOTES:

1. Jonah was a minor prophet who God commanded to preach to the people of Nineveh, but instead fled by boat. A storm arose, and Jonah instructed the sailors to throw him overboard. He was then swallowed by a large fish and spent three days in its belly, before being spit out onto dry land. Jonah subsequently went to Nineveh and warned the people, as directed by God. The Ninevites repented, thus avoiding judgment.

2. The Hebrew word translated “repent,” *teshuva*, means simply to “return” to God.

3. Of all the signs of Judgment Day, the most frequently mentioned in Scripture is a darkened sun, or total solar eclipse (Rev. 6:12; Joel 2:31; 3:14, 15; Isa. 13:9-10; Matt. 24:29; Mark 13:24; Luke 21:25-27; Acts 2:20, 21; Ezek. 32:8).

4. 765–64 BC was a Sabbatical year, making the year of Nineveh’s eclipse, 764–63 BC, the first year of a new cycle.

5. Strong’s coincidence: From the Nineveh eclipse in 763 BC to Sabbatical year 2023 is 2,785 years. Strong’s Greek #2785 is the word *kétos*, referring to the “huge fish” or “whale” that swallowed Jonah: <https://biblehub.com/greek/2785.htm>

6. Sabbatical-year chronology (see “WH” for Wacholder): <https://www.pickle-publishing.com/papers/sabbatical-years-table.htm?fbclid=IwAR0hIhsCq2JcbIxK7laALSJtB2K-zCfAbsFimZCxaeQxauseX7AINHAWVjl>

7. 2024 Jubilee calculation:

There have been exactly 70 Jubilee periods since the Israelites first entered the Promised Land and began counting the 49-year cycle:

$$1407 \text{ BC} + 70 \text{ Jubilees (3,430 years)} = 2024$$

That 2024 is a Jubilee is corroborated by the 70 Weeks Prophecy:

“From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the prince comes, there will be seven sevens” [one Jubilee period] (Dan. 9:25).

According to the above prophecy, a Jubilee period begins after the Jews return to Jerusalem. Since the Jews returned to Jerusalem in June 1967, the count of “seven sevens,” or one Jubilee period, begins at the first Sabbatical week after that:

$$1974 + 49 = 2023 + 1 \text{ (Jubilee)} = 2024$$

A third indication that 2024 is a Jubilee is the fact that the Sabbatical year 2022–23 (Hebrew 5782) is divisible by 49, a characteristic unique to Sabbatical years preceding Jubilees.

8. The number 120 also denotes judgment in the Flood account (Gen. 6:3).

9. The width of an eclipse may vary by a handful of miles, depending on topography. However, at the location where the 2024 shadow first enters the US, and which sees the longest duration of darkness, Texas, the path of totality is calculated to be exactly 120 miles wide:

<https://www.space.com/what-states-total-solar-eclipse-april-2024-visible-from>

<https://nationaleclipse.com/overview.html>

<https://www.planophotographyclub.com/d/bec77043-06a7-4ef3-8dc1-d1250366bd2d>

10. The second (2024) eclipse occurs on the Gentile calendar date 4/8. Coincidentally, in Exodus 4:8, as God is giving Moses signs to convince the Egyptians to release the Hebrew slaves, He says, "If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first sign, they may believe the second."

11. More on the 2017 and 2024 eclipses:

2024 and 2017 Eclipse Paths: God Is in the Numbers:

[https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-](https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/d6665e1137344bcfae2eb0c084dc99fb/2024%20and%202017%20ECLIPSE%20PATHS%20-%20GOD%20IS%20IN%20THE%20NUMBERS.pdf)

[35306783/documents/d6665e1137344bcfae2eb0c084dc99fb/2024%20and%202017%20ECLIPSE%20PATHS%20-%20GOD%20IS%20IN%20THE%20NUMBERS.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/d6665e1137344bcfae2eb0c084dc99fb/2024%20and%202017%20ECLIPSE%20PATHS%20-%20GOD%20IS%20IN%20THE%20NUMBERS.pdf)

Solar Eclipse 2024: God's Final Warning for America?

[https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-](https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/6cec3893e92242c4a0fc2679755c6c8a/Solar%20Eclipse%202024%20-%20Gods%20Final%20Warning%20for%20America.pdf)

[35306783/documents/6cec3893e92242c4a0fc2679755c6c8a/Solar%20Eclipse%202024%20-%20Gods%20Final%20Warning%20for%20America.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/6cec3893e92242c4a0fc2679755c6c8a/Solar%20Eclipse%202024%20-%20Gods%20Final%20Warning%20for%20America.pdf)

12. In Judaism, the first day of Elul marks the beginning of a 40-day period of repentance leading up to the Day of Atonement. According to tradition, this is when Jonah began preaching.

13. The Rapture is the ultimate escape from judgment (1 Thess 5:9; Luke 21:36).

14. Jonah, Texas:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jonah,_Texas

Note: there is a small community named "Jonah" in Garfield, Oklahoma, but it is not an official city or town, and does not lie in the eclipse's path of totality:

<https://eclipse2024.org/communities/city/105423.html#:~:text=The%20eclipse%20in%20Jonah%20will,locations%20you're%20interested%20in.>

15. Rapture, Indiana:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rapture,_Indiana

16. The seven Ninevehs are located in Texas, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and New York.

17. Per our Jubilee calculation, 2024 marks America's fifth Jubilee. (The nation's first Jubilee was 1778, the year following Sabbatical year 1777). This is significant because the number five denotes a period of grace or Divine favor. While God has certainly "shed His grace" on the US, the impending eclipse may be a sign that the grace period is over.