

"The Rainbow"

Terry W Benton

The rainbow is God's reminder that He will not destroy the world again by water. The destruction of the world by water was because of the sinfulness of man. Every thought was on evil continually. There are those who use these colors for the purposes of advancing a cause that is against God's will. God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah because they went after sexual immorality (Jude 7). God destroyed those cities by fire (Gen. 19). The wrath of God against all ungodliness has been known since those displays of wrath in the flood and in the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Romans 1:18f shows that men try to "suppress the truth" and that they "do not like to retain God in their knowledge." Some have hijacked the symbol and used it to spread the same mentality that made Sodom what it was. They made sodomy acceptable to a culture. By doing what was "against nature" and "changing the natural use" for what is against nature, God gives them over to a debased mind.

God still wants us to use the rainbow in the sky to remember His wrath against ungodliness and the promise that the earth will not be destroyed by water again. However, the earth will be destroyed by fire (2 Peter 3:6-7). Jesus will come back in flaming fire "taking vengeance on those who know not God and who obey not the gospel" (2 Thess. 1:7-9).

The rainbow is God's reminder of His demand for holiness and righteousness. Holiness and righteousness are associated with God just as the rainbow is associated with God.

Gen 9:13-17 I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth. 14 It shall be, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the rainbow shall be seen in the cloud; 15 and I will remember My covenant which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. 16 The rainbow shall be in the cloud, and I will look on it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." 17 And God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth." NKJV

The rainbow is to be associated with God and holiness, not debauchery and ungodliness.

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Announcements

- Remember the shut in's.
- Pray for the church and one another.
- Remember the spiritual sick among us.
- Call or email me to add announcements, thanks.

Chronological Bible Reading Plan

Below is the reading plan for the next two weeks:

Jul 26 Isa 40-43

Jul 27 Isa 44-48

Jul 28 2 Kgs 18:9-19:37, Ps 46, 80, 135

Jul 29 Isa 49-53

Jul 30 Isa 54-58

Jul 31 Isa 59-63

Aug 1 Isa 64-66

Aug 2 2 Kgs 20-21

A . . . 2 2 Ch . 22 22

Aug 3 2 Chr 32-33

Aug 4 Nahum 1-3

Aug 5 2 Kgs 22-23, 2 Chr 34-35

Aug 6 Zeph 1-3

Aug 7 Jer 1-3

Aug 8 Jer 4-6

Rev 4:3-11 And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. 4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. 5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. 6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. 7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. 8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!" 9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: 11 "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created." NKJV

Rev 10:1-2 I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire. 2 He had a little book open in his hand. NKJV

Keep the image of holiness and righteousness associated with the beautiful rainbow. Do not let the debased mind of lust and humanism cause us to forget the things we should really associate with it. There are two basic outlooks: 1) Humanism which entangles men in selfish desire, lust, and a loss of a moral compass. Here men make all the rules and anything goes except for allowing those who know God to speak up and tell about righteousness and God and His revealed word. 2) God has spoken and revealed His will for mankind and He is supreme and over all and will judge us in the last day (John 12:48). This view says that it is not in man to direct his own steps and that man must look to Higher Wisdom for why we are here, what we should do while here, and where we need to be preparing to go when this life is over. This view says that God has spoken on moral issues and revealed the behaviors that please Him and that displease Him as our Maker, Judge, and King. The wrath of God against all ungodliness has been revealed and man is without excuse for traveling the road of ungodliness. Let the rainbow remind you that God has revealed His wrath and has kept His promises and will indeed hold us accountable to choose the narrow road to life (Matt. 7:13ff).