CHAPTER 5: BURNING TORCH- 3rd Trumpet



All previous heavenly events in the skies were given as signs or wonders. The third angel is describing the judgment as a heavenly scene. This is the first of the judgments describing a heavenly occurrence that doesn't need to be interpreted as a symbol. It brings with it pollution of the waters on the earth. The burning like a torch is seen high above the heavens early in the month. It initially appears not as a threat to the inhabitants of the earth. Notice it appears as a "great star" falling. Is it going to collide into the dwarf planet of Haumea in our solar system? Is this a reminder of the coming judgment prior to it impacting the earth?

Revelation 8:10 "The third angel sounded, and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of waters." 55

By the way, this is not in agreement with Biblical scholars who see this symbolizing "the star fallen from heaven" as a "chief minister." It is important to understand that the scripture doesn't use the words of "similar or like" to describe this event except in describing the falling star as "like" a burning torch. This falling star can be clearly seen on earth for all who look up into the heavens to observe. Let us take a look at Jamieson's commentary on the third judgment - the falling star that burns like a torch.

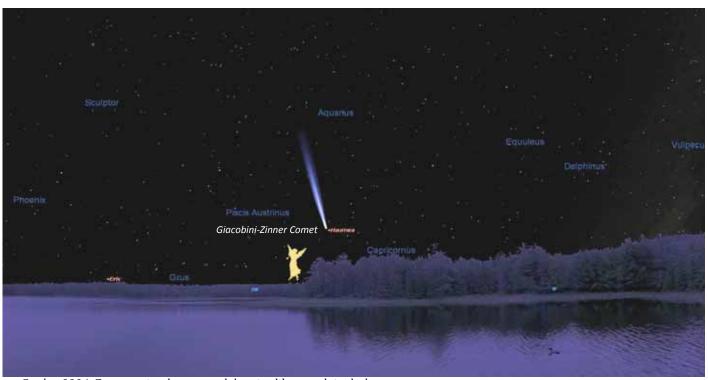
The symbolizers interpret the star fallen from heaven as a <u>chief minister</u> (ARIUS, according to BULLINGER, BENGEL, and others; or some future false teacher, as is more likely, the event be still future) falling from his high place in the Church, and instead of shining with heavenly light as a star, becoming a torch lit with earthly fire and smoldering with smoke. Alford gives as an illustration in a physical point of view, the conversion of water into firewater or ardent spirits, which may yet go on to destroy even as many as a third of the ungodly in the latter days.⁵⁶

⁵⁵ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Re 8:10). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

⁵⁶ Jamieson, R., Fausset, A. R., Fausset, A. R., Brown, D., & Brown, D. (1997). *A commentary, critical and explanatory, on the Old and New Testaments* (Re 8:11). Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

Could there just be a simply straight forward view or interpretation of this passage in Revelation 8:10? It appears the Apostle John's vision is true to reality as seen in the heavens. Let us first take a look at the event of the third angel's trumpet being sounded. We can clearly see in the skies above the "burning like a torch." What is this object in the sky? Is it a falling star, asteroid or a comet that is seen in the heavens? We will soon see this is Jacob's comet by its name. This comet has been known to pass the earth several times in past history.

We shall look at the meaning of "wormwood" in the following verse in Revelation and the significance of this term used in scripture. We will see how this comet will produce the "poisonous and bitter waters" as described in Revelation 8:11 and other scripture passages.



October 2394 Comet coming down to earth burning like a torch in the heavens

The Comet Giacobini–Zinner brings a bright plasma tail to the night skies by the middle of the month. It is as if the view of burning like a torch is described in the scripture that brings in the Third Trumpet Judgment. The Comet Giacobini–Zinner is the parent body associated with many meteor showers, called the Draconids.

The comet was discovered by Michel Giacobini from (Nice, France), who observed the comet in the constellation of Aquarius on December 20, 1900. It appeared again two passages later by Ernst Zinner (from Bamberg, Germany) while observing variable stars near Beta Scuti on October 23, 1913. Giacobini—Zinner was the target of the International Cometary Explorer spacecraft, which passed through its plasma tail on September 11, 1985. It is the parent body of the Draconids meteor showers. This comet is especially noteworthy as it is one of a small number of comets that can produce very spectacular meteor showers under the right conditions. The meteor display is variously referred to as the Draconids, October Draconids, and the Giacobinids. The meteor shower occurs around October of each year, but is usually unrecognizable; however, meteor storms occurred in 1933 and 1946 which produced several thousand meteors within an hour at maximum. The October Draconids, in the past also unofficially known as the Giacobinids, are a meteor shower whose parent body is the periodic comet 21P/Giacobini-Zinner. 57

The name Giacobini is derived from the Hebrew, "Yaakov" or Jacob, meaning: following-after*. How interesting, that the Draconids are remnants of "Comet Jacob" and are as numerous as the grains of sand on the seashore.

⁵⁷ Gary W. Kronk's Cometography on 21P/Giacobini-Zinner, http://cometography.com/pcomets/021p.htm

This is just like the remnants of Israel, the sons of Jacob, are represented at this time. It is amazing that the Draconids, the remnant of Comet Giacobini-Zinner, are now known as the remnants of "Comet Jacob." God has named all the stars, including comets.

*Source: http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Giacobini

Comet Giacobini-Zinner



Draconids Meteor Shower (NAOJ)



Comet Giacobini-Zinner (NASA JPL)

Draconids:

Meteor shower picture taken: by H. Fukushima, S. Abe, and T. Nakamura on September 20, 1998 at the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan. The Draconids are the remnant of Comet Giacobini-Zinner: The name Giacobini is derived from the Hebrew, "Yaakov" or Jacob, meaning "following-after".*

Comet Giacobini-Zinner:

The comet experienced seven close approaches to Earth and two close approaches to Jupiter in the past.

- 0.88 AU from Earth on 1900 December 15
- 0.51 AU from Earth on 1913 November 14
- 0.26 AU from Earth on 1946 September 20
- 0.93 AU from Jupiter on 1958 January 19
 - decreased orbital distance from 0.99 AU to 0.94 AU
 - o decreased orbital period from 6.56 to 6.42 years
- 0.35 AU from Earth on 1959 November 8
- 0.58 AU from Jupiter on 1969 September 23
- 0.93 AU from Earth on 1972 July 24
- 0.47 AU from Earth on 1985 September 6
- 0.85 AU from Earth on 1998 November 27
- 0.39 AU from Earth on 2018 September 11
- 0.37 AU from Jupiter on 2029 February 14
- 0.53 AU from Earth on 2031 September 5

AU Astronomical Unit: 149,597,870.66 km

The comet Giacobini-Zinner is associated with meteor showers named the Draconids. That is why the scripture says "fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of waters." A meteor shower is many objects falling to the earth which could easily affect the rivers and spring waters on the earth. The scripture says "burning like a torch, and it fell" is the comet. Even though there may be meteor showers is scripture telling us that the comet will eventually impact the earth? The angle of trajectory of the comet appears to be coming down onto the earth.

For the most part, a comet is an object in the solar system that orbits the sun. It normally has what is called a coma (pear-shaped image) or atmosphere as well as a plasma tail. The comet's nucleus is usually made of rock, dust, and ice. The interesting thing is that comets' orbits are highly variable. First, they are almost always highly affected by close calls with major planets. Sometimes comets are moved into orbits that destroy them, due to their nearness to the sun. One of the reasons why comets are so easily moved is because their out-gassing propels them in mysterious and unpredictable ways. In other words, a comet that is thought not to be a danger to Earth could conceivably become one with little notice. If the comet strikes in the ocean and you live anywhere near a coastal region, you're likely to be wiped out by the massive tsunami waves that roll across the ocean. If the comet strikes a continent, and it's a continent that you live on, the only way you could possibly survive is if you

live, far away from the impact zone. It will kill just about all life within hundreds and even thousands of miles. Dust and dirt and gases will be kicked up into the atmosphere, blocking out the sun, likely across the earth for many months. Let us take a look at a different comet that collided with Jupiter.

Comet Shoemaker–Levy 9 (formally designated **D/1993 F2**) was a comet that broke apart and collided with Jupiter in July 1994, providing the first direct observation of an extraterrestrial collision of solar system objects. This generated a large amount of coverage in the popular media, and the comet was closely observed by astronomers worldwide. The collision provided new information about Jupiter and highlighted its role in reducing space debris in the inner solar system.

From: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comet_Shoemaker%E2%80%93Levy_9.

The meteor showers associated with the Jacob's comet seems to remind us of the brimstone used in the destruction of Sodom in Lot's time. Lot escaped to the town of Zoar during Sodom's destruction.



Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah by John Martin (1852)

Vertical walls of perhaps Sodom southwest Dead Sea (GNU) http://www.arkdiscovery.com/sodom_&_gomorrah.htm

Genesis 19:22-25 "Hurry, escape there, for I cannot do anything until you arrive there." Therefore the name of the town was called Zoar.

- 23 The sun had risen over the earth when Lot came to Zoar.
- 24 Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven,
- 25 and He overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground." 58

Genesis 19:28 "and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the valley, and he saw, and behold, the smoke of the land ascended like the smoke of a furnace." ⁵⁹

It was the city of Zoar that was saved from the Wrath of God during Lot's day. It will be Jordan that will be saved during the End Times according to Daniel. Unlike Sodom's and Gomorrah's brimstone and fire destruction, the heavenly event is not to destroy the earth with fire, but to pollute the waters and make them bitter or poisonous upon the earth. There is a description in scripture of poisonous fruit in the land of Sodom and from the fields of Gomorrah that tasted bitter. This is venom of the serpents and deadly poison.

Deuteronomy 32:32-33 "For their vine is from the vine of Sodom,

And from the fields of Gomorrah; Their grapes are grapes of poison, Their clusters, bitter.

33 "Their wine is the venom of serpents, And the deadly poison of cobras." 60

⁵⁸ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Ge 19:22–25). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

⁵⁹ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Ge 19:28). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

Bitter Waters

What does Revelation say about this poisonous water?

Revelation 8:11 "The name of the star is called Wormwood; and a third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the waters, because they were made bitter." 61

The bitter waters are poisonous and cause men to die. The term of "wormwood" is used in the old Hebrew text of the Bible. What does the Old Testament say about "wormwood"?

Deuteronomy 29:18 "so that there will not be among you a man or woman, or family or tribe, whose heart turns away today from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of those nations; that there will not be among you a root bearing poisonous fruit and wormwood." 62

We now know that it is poisonous and bitter. There is a similar statement in Hebrews to this bitterness.

Hebrews 12:15 "See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of <u>bittemess</u> springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled;" 63

This must be a sign of "whose heart turns away today from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of those nations." This appears to be a clear description of those who have turned their heart away from the Almighty God to worship the Antichrist on the earth and take the mark of the beast. We now know the timing of the mark of the beast must be prior to this falling star called Jacob's comet. This mark is made on the right hand or on the forehead mentioned in Revelation 13:16-17.

Revelation 13:16 "And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead,

17 and he provides that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name." 64

The comet Giacobini–Zinner now approaches the earth with light shining up into the heavens. The comet is coming down to the south of Jerusalem in the October 2394 timeframe. The software program that maps the heavenly object movements in the skies above, doesn't have a model of gravity built into the program. We cannot be sure of where the comet's destruction occurs on earth. The variability of the out-gassing on its orbits can affect its point of impact.

Nevertheless, the comet is seen always to the south of Jerusalem during the month of October. The Red Sea is directly south of the city of Jerusalem. The Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea are also further south of the nation of Israel. It appears to go down in the south. Many scholars believe that the impact would be the Mediterranean Sea, which is to the west of Jerusalem and not to the south. Nevertheless, the second judgment does destroy one-third of the ships that were in the Mediterranean. This included the ships from the united European base of Kittim on the island of Cyprus.

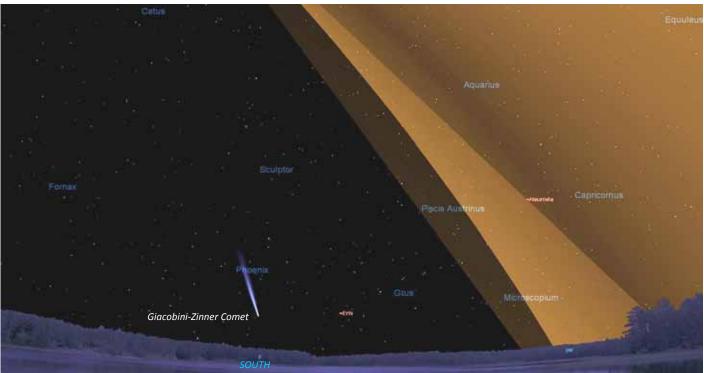
⁶⁰ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Dt 32:32-33). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

⁶¹ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Re 8:11). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

⁶² New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Dt 29:18). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

⁶³ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Heb 12:15). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

⁶⁴ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Re 13:16-17). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.



October 2394 Comet coming down to earth burning like a torch in the heavens

It is interesting to find radiant light going up to the heavens as if to represent the event as God given. This radiant light from the moon just happens to shine prior to the comet coming down on the earth into the south. This falling star is to poison the waters on the earth. If the bitter waters represent mankind turning away from God, then who is he serving on this earth? The false god must be the Antichrist who has come in accordance with the activity of Satan. What type of person is the Antichrist? Let us go back and see what Apostle Paul had said to the Thessalonians.

- 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 "that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders,
- 10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.
- 11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false,
- 12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness."65

Daniel has a clear description of the Antichrist that states how long he will be empowered. It states for a time, times and half a time, which is 1260 days from the desolation of the temple. This time matches that of Revelation 13:5, which states he is given authority for forty-two months.

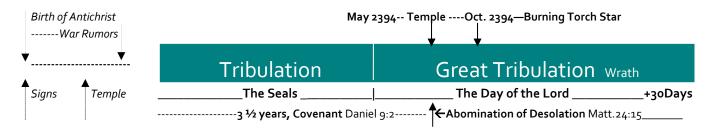
Daniel 7:25-26 "He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

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⁶⁵ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (2 Th 2:9-12). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

26 'But the court will sit for judgment, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever: "66

October 2394: we have arrived to the timeframe of the Third Trumpet Judgment, which we have determined to be the comet Giacobini-Zinner. This event is accompanied by Draconids, which is a meteor shower whose parent body is the periodic comet 21P/Giacobini-Zinner or Jacob's Comet when translated from the Hebrew.



Most Bible scholars don't understand the significance of the third judgment. This bitterness, which turns the water into poison, is a sign of serving another god. The scripture clearly describes this "whose heart turns away today from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of those nations." This appears to be a clear description of those who have turned their heart away from the Almighty God to worship the Antichrist during the End Times.

We know the Antichrist, the beast and the False Prophet are both cast into the lake of fire. It will also include those who worship him and receive the mark of the beast being thrown into the lake of fire as well. Nevertheless at this time, the bitter waters are poisonous and cause men to die due to their unbelief in an Almighty God.

Revelation 19:20 "And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone." 67

To the contrary, it appears that all those who have "understanding" will be granted symbolic wings to fly away into the wilderness. There will be many more believers who will be protected by God and nourished in the wilderness, until Christ comes to reign on the earth.

Daniel 12:10 "Many will be purged, purified and refined, but the wicked will act wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, but those who have insight will understand." 68

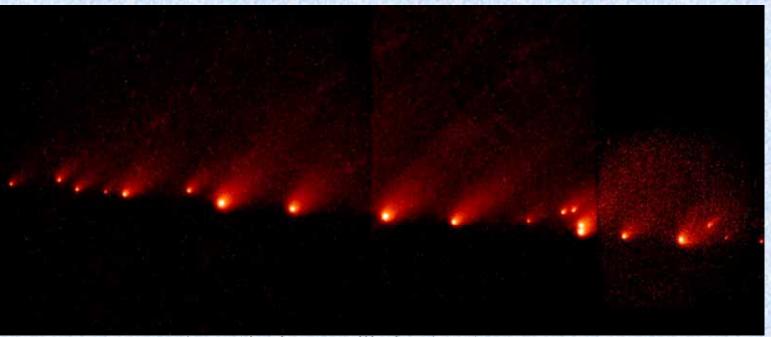
Daniel tells us that this is a time where many will be purged and refined. Those who have insight will understand and will seek protection in the wilderness. There was a sign in the heavens marking the event of fleeing into the wilderness, which occurred during the desolation of the Temple. This event was prophesied by the Prophet Zechariah in the following passage. We saw the sign in the heavens one year prior to the desolation of the Temple. It was a forewarning to flee from Jerusalem. It also promises that the Lord will come with Holy Ones.

Zechariah 14:5 "You will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD, my God, will come, and all the holy ones with Him!

⁶⁶ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Da 7:25–26). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

⁶⁷ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Re 19:20). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

⁶⁸ New American Standard Bible: 1995 update. 1995 (Da 12:10). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.



Panoramic Picture of Comet P/Shoemaker-Levy 9, Hubble Telescope (NASA)



Comet-like Asteroid P/2010 A2, Hubble Telescope (NASA)