## The Bitter Waters of Wormwood

Val Brinkerhoff

The word "Wormwood" means "bitter calamity" and "sorrow" in scripture. It is tied to Israel and her unfaithfulness to God. There are seven total "Wormwood" scriptures in the Bible (some tied to "the waters of gall"). They include: (1) Deut. 29:18; (2) Jer. 9:13-15; (3) Jer. 23:14-15; (4) Lam. 3:15; (5) Prov. 5:3-4, (6) Amos 4:6-8, and (7) Rev. 8:10-11. In this paper, two types of "bitterness" in connection with "Wormwood" are addressed. The first focuses on the Old Testament definition of "Wormwood," a bitter water solution drank by brides suspected of being unfaithful to their husbands. The second is tied to the New Testament version of "Wormwood," that addressed by John in the book of Revelation. It is is centered on a returning "star" in the last-days that is tied to coming judgment on us due to our unfaithfulness as the bride of Christ to Him as the Bridegroom. Wormwood appears to be a great star, comet, planet that wrecks havoc on the earth and her inhabitants in the near future. Note the context of the following three wormwood scriptures.

- 1. Wormwood is "bitter calamity" or *sorrowful judgment* sent from heaven upon the wicked (Jer. 23:14-15)
- 2. Wormwood was the bitter herb used in a bitter water mixture for testing a brides' faithfulness to her husband (Deut. 29). The Bridegroom is Christ, the Bride is the church (the community of believers under covenant with God).
- 3. Wormwood is the name of the "star" destroying one third of the earth's fresh water in the last days (Rev. 8:10-11)

## The Wormwood Solution

The Fidelity Test

Bitter water or "wormwood" was part of an ancient fidelity test to determine the faithfulness of a bride to her husband (like that of Israel the Bride to Christ the Bridegroom). The mixture was administered internally to wives (brides) accused of unfaithfulness (a type for ancient Israel and us today). The physical state of the accused quickly revealed guilt (swelling of the belly and a rotting thigh) or innocence (blessing, barrenness removed, for example). We read in Numbers 5:27, "And when he [the priest] has made her drink the water, then it shall come to pass that, if she is defiled ...her belly shall swell and her thigh fall." Instructions for the test are found in Numbers 5:11-31; 5:27, Exodus 25, and the Mishnah. First, pure or "holy" water was taken from "the laver of water" and put in an earthen (clay) vessel. Dust from off the floor of the Tabernacle or Temple was then sprinkled upon the water. A third "bitter" ingredient was the "root that beareth gall and wormwood" (Deuteronomy 29:18) of a herb, potentially Artemisia absinthium (called "wormwood" today). This herb produces a dark, green, aromatic oil with intense bitterness. It is also known to stimulate mental activity, potentially intensifying the Lord's mental and emotional state, in addition to his intense physical pain during His time on the cross. It was one of three bitter cups He endured for us - at (1) Gethsemane, (2) the scourging and (3) and the cross.

Significantly, seven Bible verses refer to a "bitter water" mixture as "wormwood" (others reference it as "the waters of gall"), each of them in connection with *bitterness* and Israel's *faithfulness* to God. They include: Deuteronomy 29:18; Jeremiah 9:13-15; 23:14-15; Lamentations 3:15; Proverbs 5:3-4, and Revelation 8:10-11. The following Jeremiah verse is a good example, though each is instructive.

"I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit *adultery*, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness: they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah. Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with *wormwood*, and make them drink *the water of gall*: for from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land" (Jeremiah 23:14,15).

The Song of Mourning in connection with Unfaithfulness

David's sin with Bathsheba was a source of great bitterness to him, yet much of the Psalms (which he wrote) is poetry accompanying a song. They were joyful praises to the God he loved and sought forgiveness from. Many reflect his mourning for unfaithfulness with Bathsheba. In Deuteronomy 32 we read of a song of mourning that Moses and Joshua taught the children of Israel, a song relating to Israel's unfaithfulness to God (verse 44). In verse 14 we read of the obedient patriarchal bloodline of Israel - the pure blood of the true vine Christ - the "pure blood of the grape" (verse 14). It is contrasted with the "vine of Sodom" – unfaithfulness (verse 32). Israel's tendency to go after other Gods and abandon the one true God, represented the "grapes of gall," with "clusters that are bitter: Their wine was the poison of dragons, and the cruel venom of asps" (verses 32-33). Such Idolatry and sin brought on great mourning and lamentation. Unfaithful Israel would thus have to drink from a bitter cup, a cup of trembling, a cup full of bitter calamity and sorrow - "wormwood" – the wrath of God.

According to the Mishnah, the quantity of the bitter water mixture consumed by a wife accused of unfaithfulness was "half a log, and that was but a quarter of a pint, or three egg shells." The Targum of Jonathan suggests that the dust from off the floor of the Tabernacle, and an earthen vessel, both be used in the bitter water infidelity test, "because the end of all flesh is

to come to dust, and so to put her in mind of her original and her end; and in like manner the earthen vessel might signify, that she would be broke to pieces as that vessel; as also it might direct her thoughts to the tempter, by the influence of whose temptation she had been drawn into this sin, dust being the serpent's food; and this being taken off the floor of the tabernacle, might add to the veneration of it, and make it more solemn and awful to drink of it" (Sotah, c. 2. sect. 2). The quantity or strength of ingredients may have been increased with each cup, the third being the most "bitter."

Mary, Joseph and Wormwood According to the Infancy Gospel of James (also called The Protoevangelium), both Mary, the Mother of Christ (then pregnant and unmarried), and Christ's stepfather Joseph drank "wormwood" as part of a test to prove their guilt or innocence prior to their marriage. "The priest said: 'I will give you the water of the Lord's judgment to drink and that will reveal your sin.' The priest took some of [the bitter water], made Joseph drink it, and then sent him away into the hill country. He returned, and the water had not affected him. He also made Mary drink the [bitter water], and sent her into the hill country. She too returned with no [sign of the curse]. All the people were amazed because there was no sign that they had sinned. The priest then said: "If the Lord God has not revealed your sin, I do not condemn you." He let them go. Joseph took Mary and went to his house rejoicing, glorifying the God of Israel." (Quote from The Protoevangelium, or The Infancy Gospel of James, in Margaret Barker, Christmas: The Original Story, SPCK, p. 157.)

In Webster's Dictionary we read for the word "wormwood": 1: ARTEMISIA. esp: a European plant (Artemisia absinthium) yielding a bitter slightly aromatic dark green oil used in absinthe; 2: something bitter or grievous: BITTERNESS. Artemisia: any of a genus (Artemisia) of composite herbs and shrubs with strong-smelling foliage. The Encyclopedia of Herbs states, "Artemisia absinthium (wormwood) has been a household remedy since biblical times, its bitterness becoming a metaphor for the consequences of sin: "For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, And her mouth is smoother than oil: But her end is bitter as wormwood" (Proverbs 5:3-4)...Absinthium, the species name, means "without sweetness," and refers to the intensely bitter taste. Its common name "wormwood" comes from the German Wermut, "preserver of the mind," since the herb was thought to enhance mental functions...Properties...It stimulates the uterus and expels intestinal worms. Artemis: a Greek moon goddess often portrayed as a virgin huntress--compare DIANA."

## Wormwood: Heaven-Sent Judgment

Wormwood is a term in scripture closely tied to idolatry and being unfaithful to the Bridegroom Jesus Christ. In John's book of Revelation, "Wormwood" is the name of a "great star," an object of judgment destroying one third of the earth's fresh water supplies in rivers and springs in the last days (Rev. 8:10-11). Drought (the Lord taking away water), followed by famine, is a typical method in scripture to bring about repentance. Wormwood comes in judgment bringing "bitter waters" and "bitter calamity." Without water, especially living waters of Christ, we are in deep trouble.

Some believe Wormwood may be Planet X, a massive planet 7 to 10 times the size of earth. The Anonymous author of the blog Pure Revelations retranslates Revelation 8:10-12 as follows. "And the third angel *started*, and there came a great *planet* from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, *and it sucked up and defiled the rivers and waters of the earth*. And the name of the planet is called Wormwood (*Taste of Death*). And the third part of the waters *became dead*; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter. And the fourth angel *started*, and the third part of the *sunlight was blocked*, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise (*smoke and darkness*)" (Rev. 8:10-12).

Researcher Gill Broussard believes Wormwood is separate from Planet 7X. His historical research points to Planet X returning to earth, on average every 333 years. It brings *judgment*. He also believes we will pass through this planet's debris trail two times when it finally enters our solar system. It will wreak havoc in the western hemisphere, and specifically on North America, modern-day Babylon.

There are **seven** total "Wormwood" scriptures in the Bible (some tied to "the waters of gall"). They include: (1) Deut. 29:18; (2) Jer. 9:13-15; (3) Jer. 23:14-15; (4) Lam. 3:15; (5) Prov. 5:3-4, (6) Amos 4:6-8, and (7) Rev. 8:10-11. The word "wormwood" means "bitter calamity" and "sorrow," resulting from heaven-sent judgment upon Israel for her unfaithfulness to God.

When idolatrous Israel was unfaithful to Bridegroom Jehovah in the Bible, she was compared to a *whore*, going after other gods. In the Old Testament, as addressed earlier, "wormwood" was a watery mixture taken internally by brides suspected of *unfaithfulness* to their husbands (Deut. 29). It was made from the bitter herb *wormwood*, mixed with dirt from off the floor of the temple and *living water* from the Gihon Spring. Note the context of the following three wormwood scriptures once again.

- 1. Wormwood is "bitter calamity" or sorrowful judgment sent from heaven upon the wicked (Jer. 23:14-15)
- 2. Wormwood was the bitter herb used in a bitter water mixture for testing a brides' faithfulness to her husband (Deut. 29). The Bridegroom is Christ, the Bride is the church (the community of believers under covenant with God).
- 3. Wormwood is the name of the "star" destroying one third of the earth's fresh water in the last days (Rev. 8:10-11)

In addition to the bride Israel (and the modern Gentile Christian church), Isaiah, Ezekiel, and Jeremiah also address unfaithfulness among the leaders of "churches" generally. Jeremiah does so in connection with wormwood. "I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness: they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah. Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall: for from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land" (Jer. 23, 14-15). Fiery hail was sent down upon Sodom and Gomorrah, the kind of hail that many believe we will receive from Planet X.

Third-Part Darkening of the Sun, Moon, & Stars

In addition to comets mentioned in six of the eight scriptures addressing blood moons and black suns in the last-days, John, in the book of Revelation addresses seven angels pouring out God's wrath on a wicked earth. One of these is the darkening of the sun, moon, and stars - and by a "third part." And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise" (Rev. 8:12). Some natural disasters addressed by Isaiah, Daniel, and John, may be caused heavenly judgments such as Planet X entering our solar system (see endnotes 6 and 11). Other heavenly signs include the removal of the rainbow and a coming night without darkness.

Removal of the Rainbow The rainbow is the token of God's covenant with Enoch, renewed with Noah and all the covenant people (JST Gen. 9). In his inspired translation of Genesis, the Prophet Joseph Smith stated; "I have asked of the Lord concerning His coming; and while asking the Lord, He gave a sign and said, 'In the days of Noah I set a bow in the heavens as a sign and token that in any year that the bow should be seen the Lord would not come; but there should be seed time and harvest during that year: but whenever you see the bow withdrawn, it shall be a token that there shall be famine, pestilence, and great distress among the nations, and that the coming of the Messiah is not far distant." He later added, "The Lord hath set the bow in the cloud for a sign that while it shall be seen, seed time and harvest, summer and winter shall not fail; but when it shall disappear, woe to that generation, for behold the end cometh quickly" (TPJS pps. 305, 340-41). The pattern of darkness before light is also part of seeing God, evident in the visionary experiences of Moses and Joseph Smith, for example, who endured darkness of Satan prior to experiencing God's light.

As we have seen, lesser light signs (eclipses of the sun and moon) are tied to *judgment*. Three scriptures reveal that *greater light* in connection with a night without darkness, can also be tied to *judgment*. These are found in Joshua 10:12-14 (see also Jasher 88:63), Helaman 14:3-4, and Zechariah 14:7 – a future day). Two of these are tied to the first and second coming of the Lord. *All three are tied to judgment on Israel's enemies the night of the luminous event*. Some suggest the earth stopped rotating, or slowed down, causing daylight to remain. Others claim a comet lit up the night sky. The greater light allowed enemies to be defeated by Joshua and the *right arm* of the Lord while the miraculous daylight lasted. In two of the three scriptures, God utilized and will utilize again - hailstones sent down from the heavens to destroy Israel's enemies. Greater light along with destructive power upon the wicked *will* be seen again in the last days (Rev. 16:21). This appears to be a luminous sign accompanying Christ's return in judgment at the last-days war in the Valley of Judgment or "Jehoshaphat") – believed to be the Kidron Valley in Jerusalem (between the Temple Mount and the Mount of Olives). It is on the Mount of Olives that Christ will stand when He comes again, when it divides north to south and east to west.

## The Winged Destroyer

Wormwood may be John's name for the destruction brought on by Nibiru, Planet X, or the Winged Destroyer, etc. There is growing evidence suggesting that it is real (whatever name it has), and that God may use it and other things to bring judgment upon the wicked (past and future). With it and other events, the earth may be moved to a new location nearer to God. Planet X is believed to be one of seven planets orbiting a red or brown dwarf star system. Some refer to this system as the Nemesis System, a potential binary star twin with our sun. Some 76% of all stars are believed to binary star systems. The research of David Meade and Gill Broussard are good places to look for evidence on Planet X. Meade, a former U.S. government insider connects the dots between billions of dollars spent (and missing from the Pentagon budget) and the building of 130 underground places of refuge for the elite – all to protect themselves from an approaching heavenly "destroyer." His book, *Planet X –the 2017 Arrival* provides good insights.

Gill Broussard ties the miraculous events of scripture to a periodically returning Planet X (see below and endnotes 9 & 11). Meade said he began his research of Planet X by simply following the money, the loss of money in the Pentagon "black budget." On the day before the 911 attack, Donald Rumsfeld announced the loss of 2.2 billion dollars from the Pentagon budget. Meade and others believe this was only the tip of the iceberg in funding for 130 underground bases, refuge centers of safety for the elite, using taxpayers money. The reason for the bases is knowledge of Planet X or Wormwood and its coming destruction. It is estimated that 1-2 trillion dollars has been spent on these bases in the 70's and 80's.

Meade and others like Gill Broussard reveal that the approach of Planet X has been known since the 1950's when its discovery created a great stir among astronomers. Proof is found in (1) historical records kept by ancient cultures, especially China, (2) by modern observation, and (3) by insider reports given of credible people like Father Malachi Martin of the Vatican and others. Twenty years ago in 1997 Martin stated, "we are looking for an object in space that will approach us in about 20 years." Before his death in 1999, Martin hinted at something like imminent extraterrestrial contact more than once. While on Coast to Coast AM radio in 1997, Art Bell asked Martin why the Vatican was heavily invested in the study of deep space at the Mt Graham Observatory. As a retired professor of the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Martin was uniquely qualified to hold secret information pertaining to VATT. Martin's answer ignited a firestorm of interest among Christian and secular UFOlogists when he replied, "Because the mentality...amongst those who [are] at the...highest levels of Vatican administration and geopolitics, know...what's going on in space, and what's approaching us, could be of great import in the next five years, ten years" (see Thomas Horn and Chris Putnam, Exo-Vaticana: Petrus Romanus, Project LUCIFER and the Vatican's Astonishing Plan for the Arrival of An Alien Savior, Defender).

Some suggest Rosh Hashanah of 2017 is that time – when it will eclipse our sun to reveal the "great sign." It is my opinion that because Rosh Hashanah represents a time to repent, that the great judgments brought upon us by this and other heavenly events may begin the seven years of Jacob's Trouble, but that they will culminate in greatest measure at the Day of Atonement (a day of blood, when the judgment is sealed), perhaps 3.5 years later, followed by the return of the Lord somewhere after 2024, in connection with the Feast of Tabernacles. The Lord is in charge of the timing of all coming events. We need to keep looking for additional heavenly signs.

Most will not be able to see Planet X because it is viewed from the southern hemisphere. It will also come upon us from a position underneath us, perhaps as "a thief in the night." It is being viewed and tracked using infrared telescopes, like that operated jointed by NASA and the Catholic church. Their infrared telescope is named LUCIFER. It is set up on Mount Graham in Arizona to track the approach of Planet X, along with the Hubble Telescope, and various satellites.

Most large governments of the world are familiar with it. Ours is one of the most secretive about it. Broussard believes one Naval Observatory astronomer, a Mr. Robert Harrington, was murdered in 1993 for sharing information about it. He called it "an intruder" in a 1990 interview. Two U.S. satellites were launched to study it; Pioneer 11 in 1973 and Voyager 2 in 1977. Both surveyed the same exact area of space, and from the same angle relative to the position of Planet X at that time. Both were the same distance from the area of space tracked for their data gathering. In a NASA press release in 1992, it stated that, "Unexplained deviations in the orbits of Uranus and Neptune point to a large outer solar system body of 4 to 8 earth masses" (aka Planet X). Harrington died in an unexpected, suspicious death in 1993. Other astronomers have since studied it, some at the South Pole. Many knowledgeable insiders have relocated their homes upon retirement to the Ozark mountains of Arkansas and Missouri. The CIA and other intelligence groups have created a second headquarters in Denver for the coming trouble that this planet is expected to cause (great destruction in earthquakes, fiery hail in meteorites, civil unrest, EMP's, famine, pollution of waters, etc.). Disinformation in stories like global warming are given to distract the average person from it and what our government has been covering up (see also endnotes 9 & 11).

Gill Broussard connects the dots differently and very well, using scripture and his understanding of the heavens to place Planet X in the miraculous and destructive events of judgment in the Bible. Broussard's work is comprehensive. No one has done more in tying Planet X to God's work. Although his prediction that Planet X would enter our solar system in 2016 did not occur (always a dangerous thing to do with the Lord's timeline), we should not discount his excellent work in trying to make sense of the unusual events of the Bible using Planet X. The following web addresses provide a good place to see his work.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8liU4ifT10U https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ilw2J8O2G6U www.YouTube.com/planet7x www.Planet7x.com https://goo.gl/3Fviy7 Dropbox charts, photos, etc