

# Comet 46P Closest Flyby In 70 Years

By T.W. Tramm

DON'T FORGET to look up this week (Dec. 17-21).

Comet 46P, also being called the "Christmas Comet," is passing near enough Earth to make it visible to the naked eye.

Since ancient times, comets have been viewed as portents of evil and are associated with cataclysmic events such as the Flood of Noah.\* The particulars of 46P, however, make it especially noteworthy as a biblical harbinger or sign:

- 46P is 2018's brightest comet and one of the brightest in years.
- 46P's flyby is the 10th closest approach of a comet in modern times. At its closest, the comet will be about 7 million miles, or 30 times the Moon's distance, from Earth.
- 46P was discovered 70 years ago in 1948, the year of Israel's prophetic rebirth as a nation.
- 46P's flyby this week marks its closest approach since its discovery 70 years ago and its closest approach for centuries to come.

Another compelling feature of Comet 46P is that it's viewable by looking toward the constellation Taurus, between the Pleiades and Hyades star clusters. That the year's brightest comet points us to this particular region in the sky is noteworthy because, as explained in books like E.W. Bullinger's "Witness of the Stars, the constellations, or star pictures in the heavens, depict various aspects of God's plan of redemption.

In the section of Bullinger's book examining the sign of Taurus, its explained that the heavenly representation of a bull is a picture of Jesus, the coming Judge and Ruler, rushing forward with mighty energy and fierce wrath—his "horns" set as to push His enemies and pierce them through.

Two groups of stars, the Pleiades and Hyades, form integral parts of Taurus. The word Pleiades means the "congregation of the judge or ruler." Hyades has a similar meaning, referring to the congregated.

Other stars in the area, such as Palilicium (Hebrew), mean "belonging to the judge."

The prophetic picture painted by the sign of the bull, therefore, is one of the Lord charging forth to judge and destroy His enemies. At His side are the saints (Church), safe from judgment as they have been removed from the earth earlier.

Bullinger cites a number of Scriptures that correspond to the above heavenly picture, including a verse from Jude that quotes Enoch:

“Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about them: ‘See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones to judge everyone, and to convict all of them of all the ungodly acts they have committed...’” (Jude 14, 15).

Also referenced are passages from Isaiah in which God’s enemies are “thrust through” as by a bull in the day of the Lord’s vengeance:

“I will punish the world for its evil, the wicked for their sins ....The earth will shake from its place at the wrath of the LORD Almighty, in the day of his burning anger. Like a hunted gazelle, like sheep without a shepherd, they will all return to their own people, they will flee to their native land. Whoever is captured will be thrust through” (Isa. 13:11, 13-15).

“The LORD is angry with all nations ... he will give them over to slaughter .... the wild oxen will fall with them, the bull calves and the great bulls. Their land will be drenched with blood, and the dust will be soaked with fat. For the LORD has a day of vengeance, a year of retribution, to uphold Zion’s cause” (Isa. 34: 2, 7, 8).

Is it coincidence that a comet discovered 70 years ago, in 1948, is making its closest approach since to illuminate Taurus, the heavenly sign that pictures Jesus coming speedily to execute judgment?

As we’ve noted here often, there is no such thing as coincidence in a universe designed and administered by an omniscient and omnipotent God.

LINKS:

<https://www.upi.com/.../Comet-46PWirtanen-to-b.../7621544998956/>

<https://www.huffingtonpost.com/.../christmas-comet-46p-wirtan...>

<https://earthsky.org/.../photos-comet-46p-wirtanen-brightest-...>

NOTES:

1. Ancient cultures are rife with traditions associating comets with a great flood. Some propose it was a comet slamming into the earth and/or collapsing the pre-flood “water canopy” that initiated the Deluge of Noah. One of the most fascinating theories linking the biblical flood to comets is Walt Brown’s Hydroplate Theory, which proposes that comets, as “giant, muddy, rock laden snowballs,” were ejected from the earth itself at the time of the Flood. Brown explains that the Flood began with a massive fracture that opened up in the earth’s crust, violently releasing the subterranean water (“fountains of the great deep” of Genesis 7) that would cover the entire globe. At this time, massive underground pressure caused masses of rock and water to be ejected into outer space at unimaginable speeds, creating the asteroids, comets, and meteoroids in our solar system:

<http://www.creationscience.com/onlinebook/Comets8.html>

2. According to Psalm 90:10, a typical human lifespan is 70 years. Jesus says the generation who sees Israel reborn will also see His return: “Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened” (Matt. 24:34). Also, the Jews were redeemed from captivity in Babylon (a type of the Church’s liberation from the world at the Rapture) after 70 years (Jer. 29:10).

3. Bullinger on the constellation Taurus:

[https://philologos.org/\\_\\_eb-tws/chap31.htm](https://philologos.org/__eb-tws/chap31.htm)