



CHILDREN'S CORNER

'What time I am afraid I will trust in Thee.'

Mark 13:26

Clouds

In this article, I want to talk about clouds. Many a poet has been inspired to write about clouds, and many an artist has been compelled to paint them, because they draw upon the imagination. The farthest that I and my childhood friends ever got was to lie looking up at them, imagining we could see all sorts of shapes and faces.

In the Bible, 'clouds' are mentioned in 49 verses across 21 books of the Old and New Testaments. Sometimes, the Scriptures speak about clouds in relation to the weather. For example, in the story of the battle between Deborah and Sisera in Judges 4-5, the Lord helped bring about victory by sending rain clouds, causing the enemy's chariots to get stuck in the mud. In 1 Kings 18, Elijah prayed for the drought

to cease and before long the skies were black with rain clouds.

In the book of Jude, clouds are used to describe the state of understanding that the ungodly have with regard to spiritual matters. As clouds without water, they are carried about by the wind. I suppose our modern-day equivalent would be to say they are living in 'cloud cuckoo land'. Rather than accept reality, they prefer to run with their own foolish notions.

The Scriptures also associate clouds with the second coming of the Lord. Sometimes sunrays can be seen breaking through a gap in the clouds. These golden shafts of light can be quite breathtaking. Such heavenly scenes should remind believers that one day the Lord himself shall descend from heaven and with a great shout, causing the dead in Christ to

rise. Those who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord and be with him forever.

So, boys and girls, whenever you look up and see the clouds, do not just think about the fact that it might rain, rather think about yourselves. Are you like an empty cloud being blown about every which way because you prefer your own sinful notions, rather than the truth of the gospel? Whether it be in death or at his second coming, are you ready to meet God? Spared to see old age, King David's last words were about leaving this world and going to be with the Lord. What a bright and cloudless morning he imagined it would be. In closing, can I ask, what about you? ■



QUIZ

As well as clouds many other weather-related words are found in the Bible. Complete the word search. Some of the words you will need can only be found by looking up the Bible references.

Then with the letters left over spell out something you might wear on a sunny day.

ANSWER:



- SUN
- RAIN
- STORM
- THUNDER
- WIND
- FROST
- TEMPEST
- HAIL
- HEAT
- ICE
- WARM
- HOT
- DRY
- ISAIAH 1:18
- REVELATION 4:3
- JOB 38:30

R	A	I	N	N		H	E	A	T
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Are you 12 or under? Send your answer, name, address and church to:

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