



September-October 2008

## GOD'S CLOUDS

by Lanny and Marilyn Johnson

"Look at that huge cloud, Dad," exclaimed Billy on his first airplane ride. "It looks just like Ol' Man Paulson down the street from us."

"Now Billy, it is not 'Ol' Man' Paulson. His name is Mr. Paulson, and he is not so old. He is my age," chuckled Mr. Jones.

"Wow, now Ol' ... oops sorry ... Mr. Paulson is changing into a goat!" squealed Billy.

Billy continued looking out of the airplane window with his nose pressed up to the glass.

"Dad, what are clouds?"

"Well clouds actually start down near the ground. The heat from the sun changes (evaporates) liquid water from the oceans, lakes and streams into an invisible gas called water vapor. Even though you can't normally see it, all air contains water vapor.

"When air is heated by the sun, it rises. As it rises, the air and the water vapor that it carries slowly cools. Some of the vapor condenses (changes back into liquid) on tiny pieces of dust that are floating in the air. When billions of these droplets of water come together they

become a cloud that can be seen. As long as the cloud is warmer than the outside air around it, it floats."

"If clouds are made of water, they should be blue! Why are they white?" Billy asked.

"Light is made up of different colors, and when you put all the colors together you get white. When light from the sun hits the clouds, the light is bounced (reflected) off of the clouds. Because the water in the clouds reflect all the colors the exact same amount, they look white! If you look down a little lower on these clouds you see the clouds are gray and dark looking. That is because the top part of the cloud is blocking the light."

"Wow, you sure are smart Dad! You know a lot of stuff." Billy said, admiringly.

"Well, I studied a little about weather and climate in college. If I remember right, the science of weather (or meteorology) really began less than 400 years ago. But do you know, Billy, that someone wrote about weather and climate thousands of years before it began to be understood by scientists?" asked Mr. Jones.

"Who was that smart, Dad?" urged Billy.

"God, Billy. In the Bible, God told us about a Hydrologic Cycle long before modern science discovered it."

"What kind of bicycle is a hi ... hi ... whatever you said ... cycle?" Billy asked.

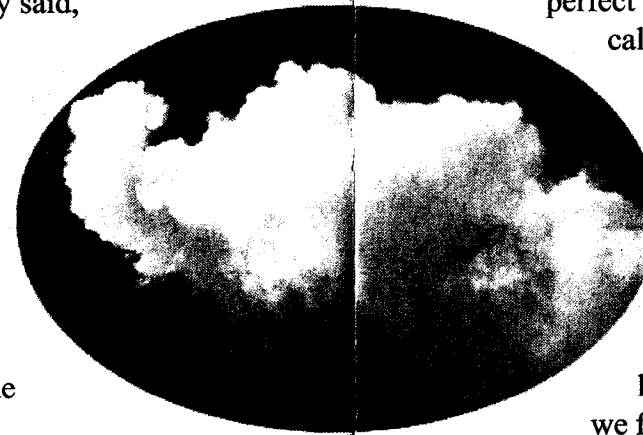
"The Hydrologic Cycle is not a bicycle, Billy," smiled Mr. Jones. "Water evaporates from oceans, rivers, and lakes, and then winds moving in large circular patterns move the moisture over the land where it falls back to earth as rain or snow. Eventually all the water that falls to the earth returns to the oceans by rivers and streams. Let's look in Ecclesiastes 1:6-7 ... *'The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits. All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.'*" This was written in 935

B.C., or about 3000 years ago, and is perfect description of what we call The Hydrologic Cycle

(see also Job 36:27-28, Psalms 135:7, Jeremiah 10:13, Isaiah 55:10).

"Today we know that clouds can hold a lot of water. It is no surprise that God knew that long before we figured it out. In Job 26:8 it says *'He bindeth up the waters in his thick clouds; and the cloud is not rent\* under them.'* God tells us the clouds can hold a lot of water without breaking open." (see also Job 37:11)

"Wow, Dad, God sure is smart!" declared Billy turning back to gaze out the window. "Look, there's one of God's clouds that looks like an elephant!"



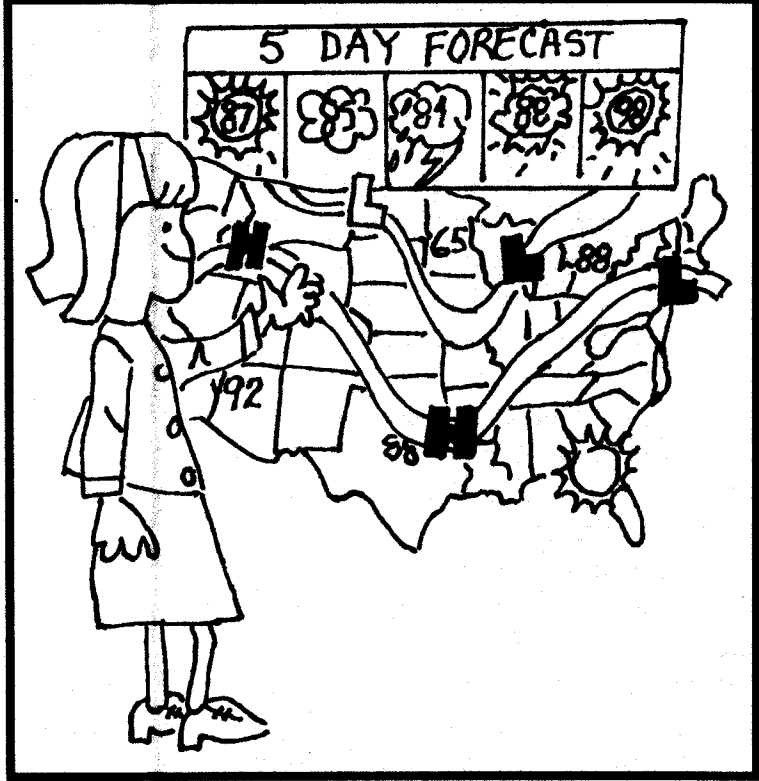
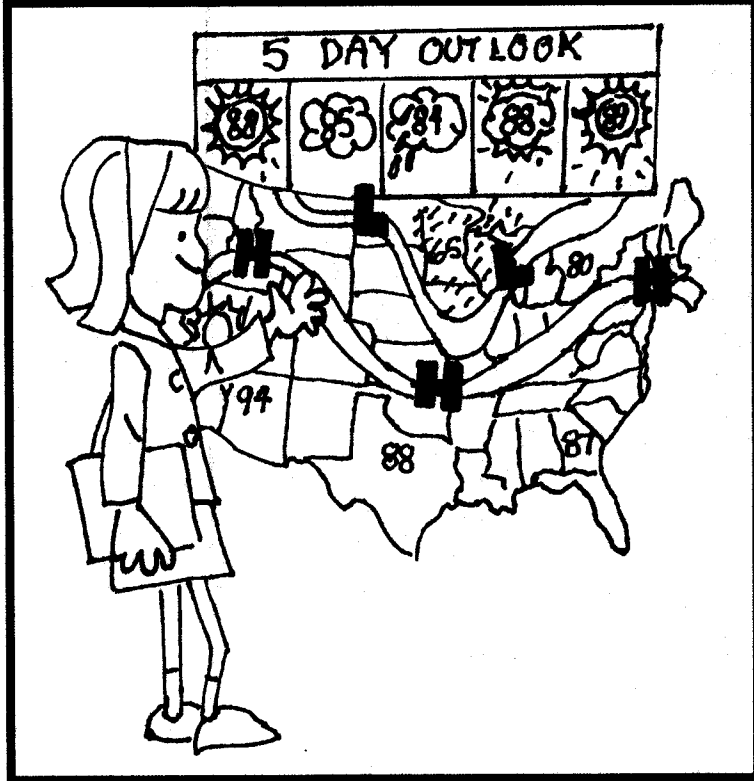
Where did everything come from? Follow the instructions below

**CROSS OUT ALL**

1. Girls' Names
2. Fish
3. Ice Cream Flavors
4. Boys' Names

SHARK	GOD	SHEEP	SARAH	THAT	SAMMY
MADE	VANILLA	CLAUDIA	COLORADO	SALMON	THE
UTAH	MATTHEW	WORLD	AND	JANE	CHOCOLATE
ALL	ABIGAIL	TROUT	THINGS	DONKEY	THEREIN
TEDDY	SEEING	ARIZONA	HORSE	THAT	CARP
HE	GOAT	IS	AMANDA	STRAWBERRY	JOHN
FLORIDA	BOBBY	COD	LORD	MAINE	OF
SAMANTHA	HEAVEN	NEOPOLITAN	JAMES	AND	TILAPIA
PIG	CHICKEN	EARTH	ACTS	TEXAS	SHERBERT
PERCH	17:	ALASKA	24a	MARY	COW

Wanda the Weather Woman  
Can you find the differences between the two pictures?  
There are at least 20 differences.



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1. Outlook to Forecast
2. 88 to 87
3. 80 to 88
4. Sun over Florida
5. High path lower
6. H to L near Maine
7. 94 to 92
8. No rain around 65
9. Scarf change
10. Extra button on jacket
11. Cuffs on sleeves
12. Paper in hand
13. Longer dress
14. No socks
15. Heels on shoes
16. Laces on shoes
17. No collar
18. No sun by chin
19. 89 to 98
20. Lightning under 84