

It is my observation that miracles usually have a definite purpose. They are not given just for show, but in order to accomplish something. Here the purpose was the destruction of the enemy in this one particular battle. God sent down great hailstones which destroyed more people than the children of Israel slew with the sword. If this was an eclipse, it might have seemed as if the day was coming to an end and Joshua prayed the Lord not to allow it to end thus prematurely, but to let it go on until they could completely win the battle.

The great truths of Scripture are so clear that a person need have no doubt as to what is meant, but many lesser points are obscure. To my mind this is one of them. I definitely accept whatever the Bible teaches, but when I do not know what a passage means I simply must reserve judgment. That, it seems to me, is what I must do with this particular passage.

This, in brief, is my idea on the question that you asked me. I fear that it is not of much help. It does seem to me, however, that the basic matter of attitude is important. We should remember that all the Scripture is vital, not just an occasional verse here and there. It is important that we accept whatever the Bible definitely teaches, but that we proceed slowly and carefully, so as to be sure that we interpret it correctly.

May the Lord continue to bless in your preparation and enable you to be a very effective witness for His glory.

Cordially yours in Him,