



BEHOLD THE KING

MATTHEW

“People close to me were raped, molested,
and beaten by parents, spouses, and family
friends.

“They were addicted to alcohol, meth, cocaine, and God knows what else. They went hungry and lived in filth. They were orphaned. Abandoned.

“Neglected. Imprisoned. Willing to do almost anything to feel alive, even overdose.

“They lived hard, hard lives where their daily experience was either acute suffering or prolonged numbness.

“And this horror was passed on to their children, and their grandchildren, and I don’t know where it will end.”

Alan Noble

“Sin may be passed down, but sin doesn’t
get the last word.”

Alan Noble

“But sometimes it feels like it does. If you, like me, have people you love who have chosen lives of self-destruction,

“whether it’s through drugs, violence, sexual behaviors, or various addictions, loving them can be a heavy burden.

“On the one hand, you deeply desire their good, and you wish you could save them under your own efforts. On the other hand, you can’t.

“But that doesn’t make it easy or simple to live with the burden of love you have for someone hurting with self-destructive tendencies.

“I think to survive this, you must learn to grieve well, to embrace our sphere of responsibility, and to accept God’s sovereignty.”

Alan Noble

To survive loving someone with self-destructive tendencies, we must learn . . .

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- to grieve well

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- to grieve well
- to embrace our sphere of responsibility

“Our sphere of influence is usually much smaller than we think.”

Alan Noble

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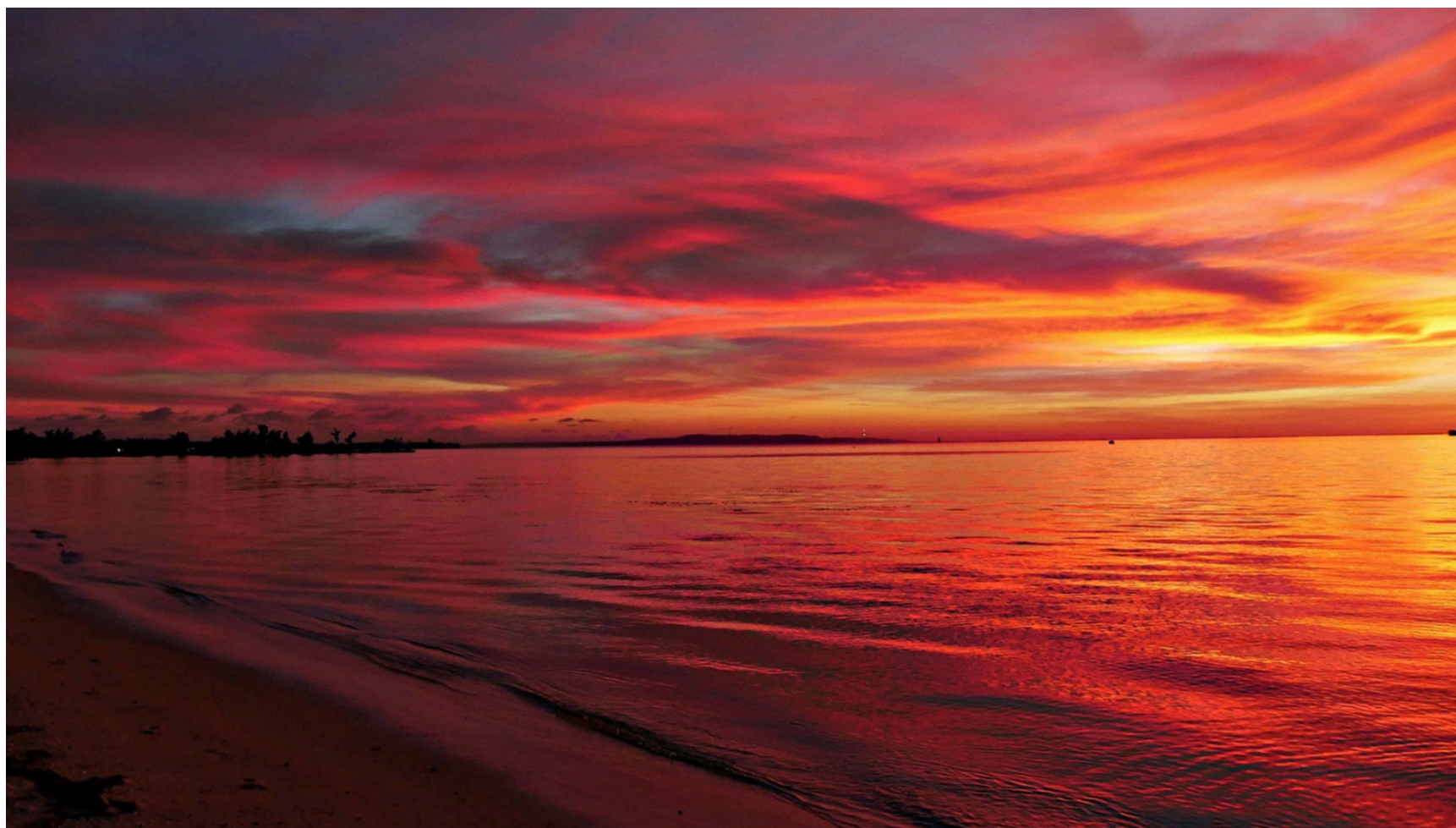
- to grieve well
- to embrace our sphere of responsibility
- to accept God's sovereignty

The **request**

The request

The **response**

“He answered them, ‘When it is evening, you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.’ And in the morning, ‘It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.’” (2-3)









high water content + low pressure → bad weather

The request

The response

The **reason**

“You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.” (3b)

Hellenistic (Greek)

rational

All men are mortal.

All men are mortal.

Socrates is a man.

All men are mortal.

Socrates is a man.

Therefore, Socrates is mortal.

Hellenistic (Greek) vs. Hebraic (Semitic)

rational

relational

Hellenistic (Greek) vs. Hebraic (Semitic)

rational

theoretical

relational

experiential

Hellenistic (Greek) vs. Hebraic (Semitic)

rational

theoretical

knowing

relational

experiential

doing

Semitic Syllogism

Semitic Syllogism

Major premise

Minor premise

Conclusion

Semitic Syllogism

Red skies in evening are signs of fair weather.

Semitic Syllogism

Red skies in evening are signs of fair weather.

This evening the skies are red.

Semitic Syllogism

Red skies in evening are signs of fair weather.

This evening the skies are red.

Therefore, the weather will most likely be fair.

“You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky.” (3b)

“But you cannot interpret the signs of the times.” (3c)

“signs” (semeion) noun – 13x in Matthew

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12:38, 39, 39, 39 1st coming

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12:38, 39, 39, 39	1st coming
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16:1, 3, 4, 4, 4	1st coming
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“signs” (semeion) noun – 13x in Matthew

12:38, 39, 39, 39	1st coming
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16:1, 3, 4, 4, 4	1st coming
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24:3, 24, 30; 26:48	2nd coming
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“As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, ‘Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?’”

Matthew 24:3

“And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.”

Matthew 7:28-29

“... the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.

“And blessed is the one who is not offended
by me.”

Matthew 11:5-6

“But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.”

Matthew 12:28

Messianic syllogism

Messianic syllogism

Major premise

Minor premise

Conclusion

Messianic syllogism

The signs of the Messiah will be his words
and works.

Messianic syllogism

The signs of the Messiah will be his words
and works.

Jesus is doing these words and works.

Messianic syllogism

The signs of the Messiah will be his words and works.

Jesus is doing these words and works.

Therefore, Jesus is the Messiah.

“An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign” (4a)

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* When I am **relationally unfaithful**, I will be **rationally unresponsive**.

“Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant.”

Proverbs 9:17

“But **he does not know** that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.”

Proverbs 9:18

* When I am relationally unfaithful, I will be rationally unresponsive.

“He does not know that the dead are there.”

Proverbs 9:18

“But no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah.” (4b)

* You don't need new signs;
you need new life!

How should we respond?

How should we respond?

- **personally**

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- **personally**

“You adulterous people!” James 4:4a

“Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, ‘He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us’?

“But he gives more grace. Therefore it says,
‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to
the humble.’”

James 4:5-6

“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.”

James 4:10

How should we respond?

- personally
- **on behalf of others**

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- personally
- **on behalf of others**

“an evil and adulterous generation” (4a)

- **grieve well**

- grieve well
- **embrace your sphere of responsibility**

- grieve well
- embrace your sphere of responsibility
- **accept God's sovereignty**

“Daniel answered and said:

‘Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might.

“He changes times and seasons;
he removes kings and sets up kings;
he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge
to those who have understanding;

“he reveals deep and hidden things;
he knows what is in the darkness,
and the light dwells with him.”

Daniel 2:20-22