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Partly Cloudy
With A 100%
Chance Of Life

A Look At Weather In
The Bible

Meteorologist Vin Crosby

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Acknowledgments

First and foremost I thank Jesus. Without You and your grace I would be nothing.

Thank You for loving me!

I would like to thank my family, pastors, and friends through the years who have loved me, prayed for me, and have just listened to me even when it was painful to do so.

Special thanks go to all those leaders in Boy Scouts of Troop 1 Graniteville/Greenville who helped take a boy and shape a man. To all teachers, coaches, councilors, and professors who helped me with the art of learning.

I thank all my friends in recovery through the years helping me to keep my side of the street clean and living one day at a time.

❖Chapter 1❖

Streamline

Streamline Analysis

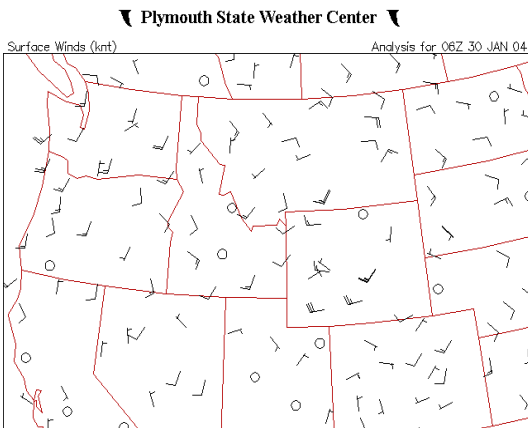
Twice a day every day at most major airports around the world weather balloons are sent up into the earth's atmosphere. Attached to these large balloons are little boxes that are shaped like cardboard milk cartons. There is a parachute also attached to the box and in

between the box and the balloon. Inside the box there is radio transmitter which is attached to a barometer, a thermometer, and a hygrometer. Most know what a thermometer measures and I'm willing to guess that a majority understand that a barometer measures air pressure. The hygrometer usually stumps classrooms when I go to talk about weather. The closest guess is that it's a rain gauge or something to measure height. Theoretically the guess of a rain gauge is correct. A hygrometer measures the water vapor in the air. That's the water in front of you right now that you can't see or touch. The box is called a rawinsonde and as each balloon is launched around the world each is tracked by transmitter from the point it was launched. Along with temperature, pressure, and vapor readings from various levels of the atmosphere we can also track the height and distance of a balloon allowing us to get the direction and wind speed too. All this information is funneled to Silver Springs, Maryland where it's put through super computers and used to create maps.

The information is sorted and then distributed to the National Weather Service Forecast Offices, television stations, private companies, and colleges. Then the data is used to create maps and charts to help the forecasting or research of the weather. As a matter of

fact you can get the information off of the internet real easy these days. It gives the meteorologist a rough snap shot at a particular time of what the weather conditions are at a specific location. Information is given at various elevations of the atmosphere so the data can be analyzed and weather patterns can be studied.

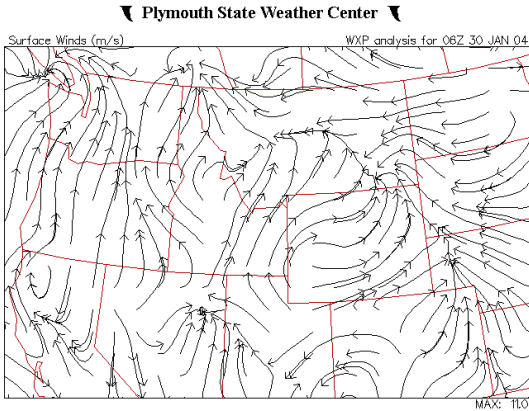
The raw data can be obtained for each balloon that was launched. When I was in school we had to decode and plot this data by hand. I'm very grateful for the computer age which handles most of the analysis these days but I must admit it was fun to do especially if there was serious weather.



One of the maps created using the wind data is what is called a stream line analysis. A special technique is used to create it and it helps show which way the wind is blowing over an area. A streamline analysis is like connecting the dots with many lines drawn that parallels the wind direction. Each station has a wind speed and direction that is depicted with what looks like little flags coming off a circle. The lines indicate where the wind is coming from and the flags show the wind speed. Each line is 10 knots and each half line is 5 knots. A triangle is 50 knots. For a streamline analysis we are interested in just the wind direction. With the many observations the goal is to keep a smooth analysis with as many lines paralleling each station plot. Some lines will touch the station and that's ok. Others will not touch a particular station and that's ok too.

The goal is to draw as many lines so the areas where several lines come together are identified. This is called convergence. An area where the lines move away from one another is called divergence. These areas are very useful in meteorology and they help us have an idea where the winds are blowing.

When a streamline analysis is completed this type of map obviously gives us the sense of where the wind is blowing from and going to.



It's very important in meteorology to find where the lines come together to form one. That's the convergence zone and typically where weather is going on.

Spiritual Streamline Analysis

But because streamlines are extrapolated we can't pick a point on the line and know exactly the wind speed and direction. We can make a guess. The only places we know the exact speed and direction is where the observation was taken at a specific time. In between

two reporting stations the wind can be twisted and diverted traveling around a building, tree, valley, or whatever and not be seen or heard. Jesus uses this analogy of the wind in one of the most known chapters of the Bible.

"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." JOHN 3:8

We should be able to do a streamline analysis of the Holy Spirit's work in our walks. There should be an event or series of events in our past where there was no doubt the Lord was involved. Think of times prior to becoming a Christian. Were there any events that sent you towards the Savior? Looking back at the most noticeable moments when God was getting my attention there was often pain involved. The pain was emotional pain or physical pain. The change would happen without any warning. Now I recognize that as God working in my life.

To start a spiritual streamline analysis visualize or actually draw three wavy lines from three sides of a sheet of paper and have them come to a point in the

