

# God Gave Something to Read Before Writing

Genesis 9:12-16 (Read)

Genesis 9:13 *"I set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth."*

Words are used to communicate.

Communication is simply the act of transferring information.

Categories of communication can be described as:

1. Spoken or verbal communication: face-to-face, telephone, radio, television, and other media.
2. Non-verbal communication: body language, gestures, how we dress or act, etc.
3. Written communication: letters, emails, books, magazines, the internet or other media.
4. Visualizations: graphs and charts, maps, logos and other visualizations can communicate messages.

Many words in our English language can be used in many different ways, sometimes exalted, sometimes abused and/or degraded. For example the beautiful word "rainbow" in Genesis 9 has been made into a piece of fabric and commonly called the "rainbow flag" designed by San Francisco artist Gilbert Baker in 1978. On June 25, 1978 the original flag was a part of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Parade. Judy Garland's singing "Over the Rainbow" has been suggested as what inspired designer Gilbert Baker. The original flag had 8 stripes and 8 colors:

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ➤ Hot pink: <i>Sexuality</i>   | ➤ Red: <i>Life</i>            |
| ➤ Orange: <i>Healing</i>       | ➤ Yellow: <i>Sunlight</i>     |
| ➤ Green: <i>Nature</i>         | ➤ Turquoise: <i>Magic/Art</i> |
| ➤ Indigo/Blue: <i>Serenity</i> | ➤ Violet: <i>Spirit</i>       |

## God Gave Something to Read Before Writing (Continued)

In 1979 the “hot pink” had to be removed due to fabric unavailability. Indigo and turquoise were changed to royal blue – down now to a six-colored version. When the flag was hung vertically from the lamp posts on San Francisco’s Market Street the center stripe was obscured by the post itself. To rectify this problem it was necessary to drop turquoise. This flag is commonly called the gay pride flag and *LGBT PRIDE FLAG*, a symbol of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender.

- I. Our interest is the fact that *no one ever saw a rainbow before the flood*.
- II. This we know in the light of antediluvian weather conditions. Let’s mention here [Biblical concepts of Civilizations](#).
- III. The significance of the rainbow is found in [Genesis 9:12-16](#).
- IV. This passage reveals that God keeps His Word. There was no rain on the earth for 2,000 years and the earth was watered from below because God has vast stores of water below the earth. The universal flood came primarily from below the earth rather than from above the earth.
- V. The first rainbow was a sign from God that never again would the earth be destroyed by water.
- VI. This was a promise from God *before the WORD existed*.
- VII. The beginning of the written word is with Moses; before the writings from God through Moses (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, and Job), God had something for people to *read before writing*. Here it was, the *RAINBOW*.
- VIII. Anyone can read the rainbow – just tell a person who cannot read what the promise means and when they see they will know. “I will not destroy the earth again by water.” They may not be able to read writing, but they can read the rainbow.
- IX. A rainbow in the sky will not be seen during a heavy storm, it is visible when the storm lets up and there is a mist in the air – little rain drops, and the sun rays shine upon the rain drops. Every ray of light from the sun is pure white. But inside of it there are many colors.

## God Gave Something to Read Before Writing (Continued)

- x. Since the rainbow is formed by refraction of light from the sun's rays, it becomes a token of God's promise. Just as light has color, God has [essence](#). Light has all these colors, but you don't see all the colors at one time. Under certain conditions particular colors are made visible. Under certain conditions, certain characteristics of God are manifest. When John saw the rainbow, he saw an expression of God's character (one of the first things John saw in Heaven was the rainbow, meaning that God keeps His Word). His promises are true! You can depend on them! Past, present and future – God does not go back on his promises. In [Rev. 4:3](#) the color is different – *"Like unto emerald"*. An emerald is green, but it has translucence. It speaks of eternal life ([I Cor. 2:16](#); [I John 5:11,12](#)).
- xi. Just as the rainbow is a joint production of storm and sunshine, so eternal life to the believer is a joint production of storm and sunshine – Storm: OSN, lost without Christ, Jesus Christ judged for us – *NOW SUNSHINE!* Jesus says, *"I am the way"* ...sunshine – salvation, reconciliation, joy, peace.
- xii. The rainbow is a sign of a covenant based on an accepted sacrifice, a sacrifice of Noah ([Gen.8:20-22](#)). The rainbow about the throne is a sign of a covenant based on the Accepted Sacrifice on the Cross. The rainbow in every way is a token of the *GRACE* of God. The rainbow on earth is semicircular; but in heaven, the *"rainbow around the throne"* – [Rev. 4:3](#) – is circular. On earth we see part; in heaven we *"shall know as we are known"* ([I Cor. 13:12](#)).