

The Content of Scripture vs The Theories of Men

- The mobility of the sun
- The stability of the earth
- The shape of the earth
- The extent of the earth
- The edge of the earth
- The nature of the sky
- The nature of the stars
- The water surrounding the earth
- The celestial and the terrestrial

The laws of physics as they exist on the earth might well be different from those of the sun, moon, stars, and planets. Astronomers would do well to consider first the *Bible* rather than Newton's *Principia* before they aim their telescopes. Today there are an increasingly large number of scientists who now recognize Newtonian mechanics as being seriously flawed, having inadequately explained the precession of the perihelion of the planet Mercury. (Newtonian mechanics have since been largely replaced by Einstein's general theory of relativity.) One man's unproven theories replaced with newer unproven theories?

The sky is the roof over the earth — a solid impervious barrier that protects both believers and non-believers from the waters beyond. The term "outer space" is a notion perpetrated by secular humanists, new age gurus, and other freethinkers.

The stars on the sky are much smaller than the earth. (The word "on" is not a typographical error here.) The notion of "distant suns" is nothing more than a theory entertained by misguided scientists.

The mobility of the sun

The most important biblical quote supporting a geocentric universe can be found in the Book of Joshua.

Joshua 10:12-13

Then spoke Joshua to the Lord in the day when the Lord gave the Amorites over to the men of Israel; and he said in the sight of Israel, "**Sun, stand thou still** at Gibeon, and thou Moon in the valley of Aijalon." **And the sun stood still**, and the moon stayed, until the nation took vengeance on their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jashar? **The sun stayed in the midst of heaven**, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day.

The miracle of Joshua appears again as a reference in The Book of Habakkuk.

Habakkuk 3:11

The sun and moon stood still in their habitation at the light of thine arrows as they sped, at the flash of thy glittering spear.

The evidence in support of a geocentric model is overwhelming here. Joshua commanded the *sun* to stand still. He did not order the earth to cease rotating nor did he qualify his statement with the divine knowledge that the sun was merely made to *appear* stationary. The sun was commanded to stand still because it is the sun that moves. Descriptions of its motion can be rather poetic.

Psalms 19:4-6

yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun, which comes forth like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and like a strong man runs his course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and there is nothing hid from its heat.

Ecclesiastes 1:5

The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises.

The stability of the earth

On the other side of the geocentric coin, if the sun moves then the earth must not move. There are a few passages which more-or-less forbid the motion of the earth.

1 Chronicles 16:30

tremble before him, all earth; yea, **the world stands firm, never to be moved.**

Psalms 93:1

The Lord reigns; he is robbed in majesty; the lord is robbed, he is girded with strength. Yea, **the world is established; it shall never be moved.**

Psalms 96:10

Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns! Yea, **the world is established, it shall never be moved**; he will judge the peoples with equity."

In addition, the notion of an earth with a "foundation" is quite common. This leads one to conclude that the earth is quite stable.

2 Samuel 22:16

Then the channels of the sea were seen, **the foundations of the world** were laid bare, at the rebuke of the Lord at the blast of the

breath of his nostrils.

Psalms 18:15

Then the channels of the sea were seen, and **the foundations of the world** were laid bare, at thy rebuke, O Lord, at the blast of the breath of thy nostrils.

Psalms 102:25

Of old thou didst lay **the foundation of the earth**, and the heavens are the work of thy hands.

Proverbs 8:27-29

When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out **the foundations of the earth**,

Isaiah 48:13

My hand laid out **the foundation of the earth**, and my right hand spread out the heavens; when I call to them, they stand forth together.

John 17:24

Father, I desire that they also, whom thou hast given me, may be with me where I am, to behold my glory which thou hast given me in thy love for me before **the foundation of the world**.

The firmness of the earth's foundation is open to some discussion, however. Earthquakes may or may not be allowed.

Psalms 104:5

Thou didst set **the earth on its foundations**, so that **it should never be shaken**.

Job 9:6

who **shakes the earth** from its place, and **its pillars tremble**.

Isaiah 24:18

He who flees at the sound of the terror shall fall into the pit; and he who climbs out of the pit shall be caught in the snare. For the windows of heaven are opened, and **the foundations of the earth tremble**.

The earth's geo-architecture is also uncertain. Compare the following passages.

1 Samuel 2:8

He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For **the pillars of the earth** are the Lord's, and **on them he has set the**

world.

Job 9:6

who shakes **the earth** from its place, and **its pillars** tremble.

Job 38:4-6

Where were you when I laid **the foundation of the earth**? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements — surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were **its bases** sunk, or who laid **its cornerstone**?

The shape of the earth

In any case, the earth is not spherical. According to the Scriptures, from a very high spot (heaven, for example) one could see the entire earth such that nothing would be hidden. Such a thing is not possible with a spherical earth as the opposite side can't be seen directly. This implies that the earth is flat.

Job 28:24

For he looks to the ends of the earth, and **sees everything under the heavens**.

Psalms 19:4-6

yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun, which comes forth like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and like a strong man runs his course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and **there is nothing hid from its heat**.

Daniel 4:10-11

The visions of my head as I lay in bed were these: I saw, and behold, a tree in the midst of the earth; and its height was great. The tree grew and became strong, and its top reached to heaven, and it was **visible to the end of the whole earth**.

Matthew 4:8

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain, and **showed him all the kingdoms of the world** and the glory of them;

Isaiah 40:22

It is he who sits **above the circle of the earth**, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;

From a great distance, a sphere would look like a circle. Perhaps the phrase "circle of the earth" refers to the outline of the earth? Perhaps. But then how could one see "all the kingdoms of the world? Those on the back hemisphere would remain hidden. The next passages should remove this confusion.

Psalms 136:6

to him who **spread out the earth** upon the waters, for his steadfast love endures forever;

Isaiah 44:24

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, who formed you from the womb;
"I am the Lord, who made all things, who stretched out the heavens alone, who **spread out the earth** — Who was with me? —

If the earth were spherical, one would use a verb other than "spread out" to describe its creation (balled up, gathered up, gathered together, anything but spread out). One might say they "spread out" batter to make pancakes but no one would ever say they "spread out" hamburger to make meatballs. The earth in the Bible was "spread out" because it is flat.

This next verse appears to describe an earth that tele-literate humans would recognize.

Job 26: 7

He stretches out the north over the void, and **hangs the earth upon nothing**.

The highlighted portion reads like a description of the earth as seen from outer space. The remainder is entirely obscure, however. What void are they talking about? What does it mean to "stretch out the north"? Help me somebody.

The extent of the earth

Not only is the earth flat, it is also finite.

Psalms 103:12

as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

On a spherical earth, one could travel east or west indefinitely. This passage seems to be saying that there is a limit to the directions east and west. That is, after some long journey, one would run out of east or west having reached the end of the earth. This contention is further justified in numerous passages.

Deuteronomy 28:64

And the Lord will scatter you among all peoples, **from one end of the earth to the other**; and there you shall serve other gods, of wood and stone, which neither you nor your fathers have known.

Deuteronomy 33:17

His firstling bull has majesty, and his horns are the horns of a wild ox; with them he shall push the peoples, all of them, to **the ends of the earth**; such are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and such are the thousands of Manasseh.

1 Samuel 2:10

The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; against them he will thunder in heaven. The Lord will judge **the ends of the earth**; he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed.

Job 28:24

For he looks to **the ends of the earth**, and sees everything under the heavens.

Job 38:13

that it might take hold of **the skirts of the earth**, and the wicked be shaken out of it?

Psalms 19:4-6

yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to **the end of the world**. In them he has set a tent for the sun, which comes forth like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and like a strong man runs his course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and there is nothing hid from its heat.

Psalms 22:27

All **the ends of the earth** shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

Psalms 46:9

He makes wars cease to **the end of the earth**; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the chariots with fire!

Psalms 48:10

As thy name, O God, so thy praise reaches to **the ends of the earth**. Thy right hand is filled with victory;

Psalms 59:13

consume them in wrath, consume them till they are no more, that men may know that God rules over Jacob to **the ends of the earth**;

Psalms 61:2

from **the end of the earth** I call to thee, when my heart is faint. Lead thou me to the rock that is higher than I;

Psalms 65:5

By dread deeds thou dost answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation, who art the hope of all **the ends of the earth**, and of the farthest seas;

Isaiah 41:9

you whom I took from **the ends of the earth**, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, "You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off";

Jeremiah 51:16

When he utters his voice there is a tumult of waters in the heavens,
and he makes the mist rise from **the ends of the earth**.

Daniel 4:10-11

The visions of my head as I lay in bed were these: I saw, and behold,
a tree in **the midst of the earth**; and its height was great. The tree
grew and became strong, and its top reached to heaven, and it was
visible to **the end of the whole earth**.

Mark 13:27

And then they will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the
four winds, from **the ends of the earth** to the ends of heaven.

The edge of the earth

The phrase "the midst of the earth" from Daniel implies that not only does the earth have a boundary it also has a center. Since trees grow only on the earth's surface, the earth's center must also be on its surface. A sphere has its center beneath its surface which means that the earth is not a sphere but some sort of plane geometric figure. This raises another question. What is the shape of the earth's boundary? The answer is somewhat puzzling.

Job 26:10

He has described **a circle** upon the face of the waters at the
boundary between light and darkness.

Job 37:3

Under the whole heaven he lets it go, and his lightning to **the corners of the earth**.

Proverbs 8:27-29

When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew **a circle** on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to
the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his
command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

Isaiah 11:12

He will raise an ensign for the nations, and will assemble the outcasts
of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from **the four corners of the earth**.

Isaiah 40:22

It is he who sits above **the circle of the earth**, and its inhabitants are
like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and
spreads them like a tent to dwell in;

Isaiah 41:9

you whom I took from the ends of **the earth**, and called from **its farthest corners**, saying to you, "You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off";

Ezekiel 7:2

"And you, O son of man, thus says the Lord God to the land of Israel: An end! The end has come upon **the four corners of the land**.

Revelation 7:1

After this I saw four angels standing at **the four corners of the earth** holding back the four winds of the earth, that no wind might blow on the earth or sea or against any tree.

Revelation 20:8

and will come out to deceive the nations which are at **the four corners of the earth**, that is, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea.

The nature of the sky

There is far less confusion when it comes to the heavens. The sky covers the earth like a tent and we live under it. There is no mention of an atmosphere in the Bible, nor of the preferential scattering of blue light by nitrogen molecules (nor any mention of nitrogen nor of molecules). The sky protects us and keeps us safe not by filtering out ionizing radiation but by its sheer strength. The sky of the Bible is solid — a firmament.

Job 22:14

Thick clouds enwrap him, so that he does not see, and **he walks on the vault of heaven**.

Job 37:18

Can you, like him, spread out **the skies, hard as a molten mirror**?

Proverbs 8:27-29

When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he **made firm the skies above**, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

Isaiah 40:22

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who **stretches out the heavens like a curtain**, and **spreads them like a tent** to dwell in;

Isaiah 44:24

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, who formed you from the womb; "I am the Lord, who made all things, who **stretched out the heavens**

alone, who spread out the earth — Who was with me? —

Isaiah 48:13

My hand laid out the foundation of the earth, and my right hand **spread out the heavens**; when I call to them, they stand forth together.

2 Corinthians 5:1

For we know that if the **earthly tent** we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Not only does God walk around on the heavens, so too does the sun, or rather it runs around on the heavens.

Psalms 19:4-6

yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for **the sun**, which comes forth like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and like a strong man **runs** his course with joy. **Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them**; and there is nothing hid from its heat.

The nature of the stars

The stars are exactly as they appear — mere points of light fastened to the sky that would fall to earth were they ever dislodged. Distant suns, far larger than the earth could not fall to earth but small points of light could.

Isaiah 14:12-13

"How you are **fallen from heaven, O Day Star**, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to **heaven; above the stars** of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far north;

Daniel 8:10

It grew great, even to the host of heaven; and some of the host of **the stars it cast down to the ground** and trampled upon them.

Matthew 24:29

Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and **the stars will fall from heaven**, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken;

Mark 13:25

and **the stars will be falling from heaven**, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Revelation 6:13

and **the stars of the sky fell to earth** as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale;

Revelation 12:4

His tail swept down a third of **the stars of heaven, and cast them to the earth**. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bear a child, that he might devour her child when she brought it forth;

Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians spells it out more clearly — the sun and the stars are different.

1 Corinthians 15:40-41

There are celestial bodies and there are terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another, There is **one glory of the sun**, and another glory of the moon, and **another glory of the stars**; for star differs from star in glory.

The next verse describes an actual astronomical event.

Acts 19:35

And when the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he said, "Men of Ephesus, what man is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper of the great Artemis, and of the sacred **stone that fell from the sky?**

Today we call these stones meteorites. Note how the contemporary connection between meteorites and shooting stars is not made. The Bible's authors appear not to care about its use as a scientific reference by future generations.

The water surrounding the earth

There are some truly odd references in the Bible (beginning on page one, no less) to there being waters above the heavens and beneath the earth. These references do not seem to describe rain or ground water as would be reasonable. Instead, they seem to promote the idea that the firmament of the heavens are holding back some unbelievably large reservoir and that the solid earth is floating in the ocean like a dumpling on soup.

Genesis 1:6-9

And God said, "Let there be **a firmament in the midst of the waters**, and let it separate the waters from the waters." And God made the firmament and separated **the waters which were under the firmament** from **the waters which were above the firmament**. And it was so.

Psalms 136:6

to him who spread out **the earth upon the waters**, for his steadfast

love endures forever;

Proverbs 8:27-29

When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established **the fountains of the deep**, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

The waters behind the sky are kept in place by the strength of the firmament. Openings (windows) in the firmament could be the source of the flood that wiped out humanity in the time of Noah.

Genesis 7:11

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventh day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth and **the windows of the heavens were opened**.

Genesis 8:2

the fountains of the deep and **the windows of the heavens were closed**, the rain from the heavens was restrained,

Isaiah 24:18

He who flees at the sound of the terror shall fall into the pit; and he who climbs out of the pit shall be caught in the snare. For **the windows of heaven are opened**, and the foundations of the earth tremble.

The waters beneath the earth are far stranger. I can't say that I've ever seen them, but the Israelites must have. They were prohibited from worshipping graven images of the creatures that inhabited this subterranean sea. It wouldn't make sense to prohibit the worship of creatures that don't exist so therefore they must exist.

Exodus 20:4

You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in **the water under the earth**;

Deuteronomy 4:16-18

beware lest you act corruptly by making a graven image for yourselves, in the form of any figures, the likeness of male or female, the likeness of any beast that is on the earth, the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the air, the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground, the likeness of **any fish that is in the water under the earth**.

Deuteronomy 5:8

You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of

anything that is in heaven above, or that is in **the water under the earth**;

The celestial and the terrestrial

Newton's great triumph was the unification of the terrestrial gravitation described by Galileo with the celestial gravitation described by Kepler. Much as a falling apple accelerates downward in free fall, so too does the moon accelerate radially in its orbit. Each body obeys the same law of universal gravitation. Had Newton read his Bible literally he would have seen the impossibility and insolence of his actions.

Genesis 11:4-7

Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and **a tower with its top in the heavens**, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth." And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, "Behold they are one people, and they have one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; and **nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them**. Come, let us go down, and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech."

Psalms 115:16

The heavens are **the Lord's heavens**, but the **earth is given to the sons of men**.

1 Corinthians 15:40-41

There are celestial bodies and there are terrestrial bodies; but **the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another**, There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.