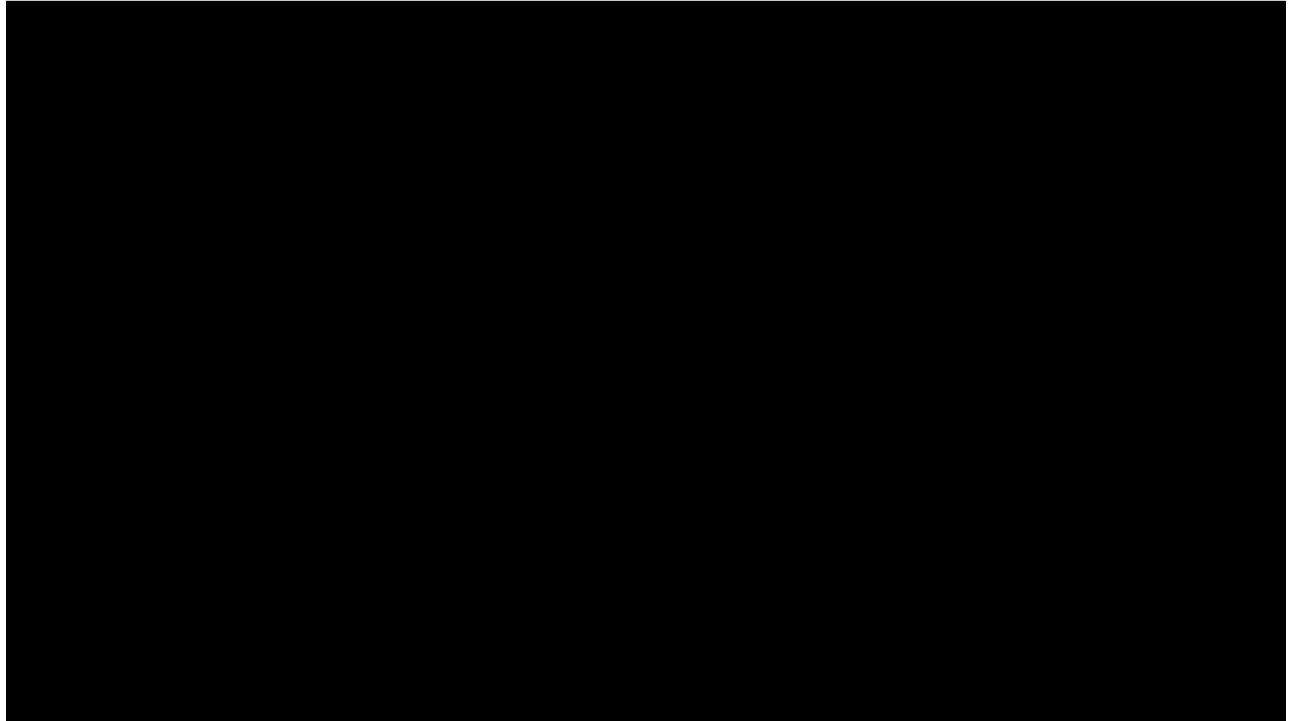




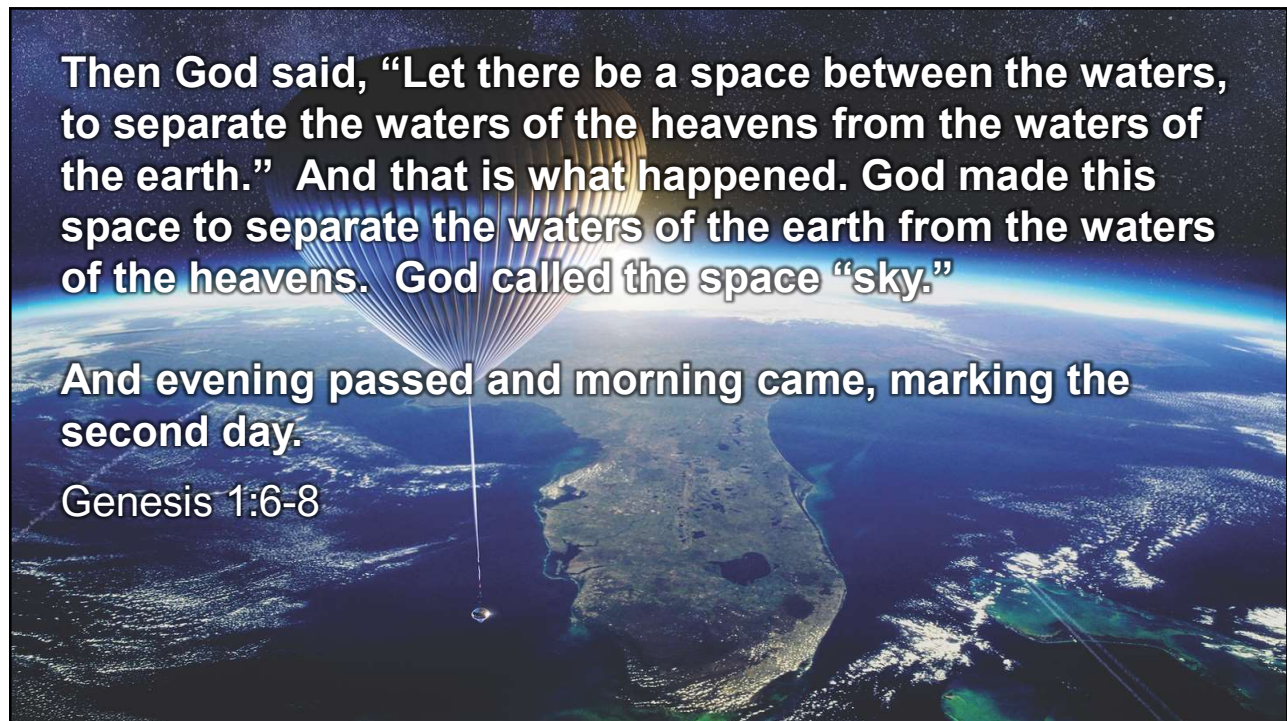
1



2



3



4

Then God said, “Let there be a **firmament** in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.” Thus God made the **firmament**, and divided the waters which were under the **firmament** from the waters which were above the **firmament**; and it was so. And God called the **firmament** **Heaven**. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

Genesis 1:6-8

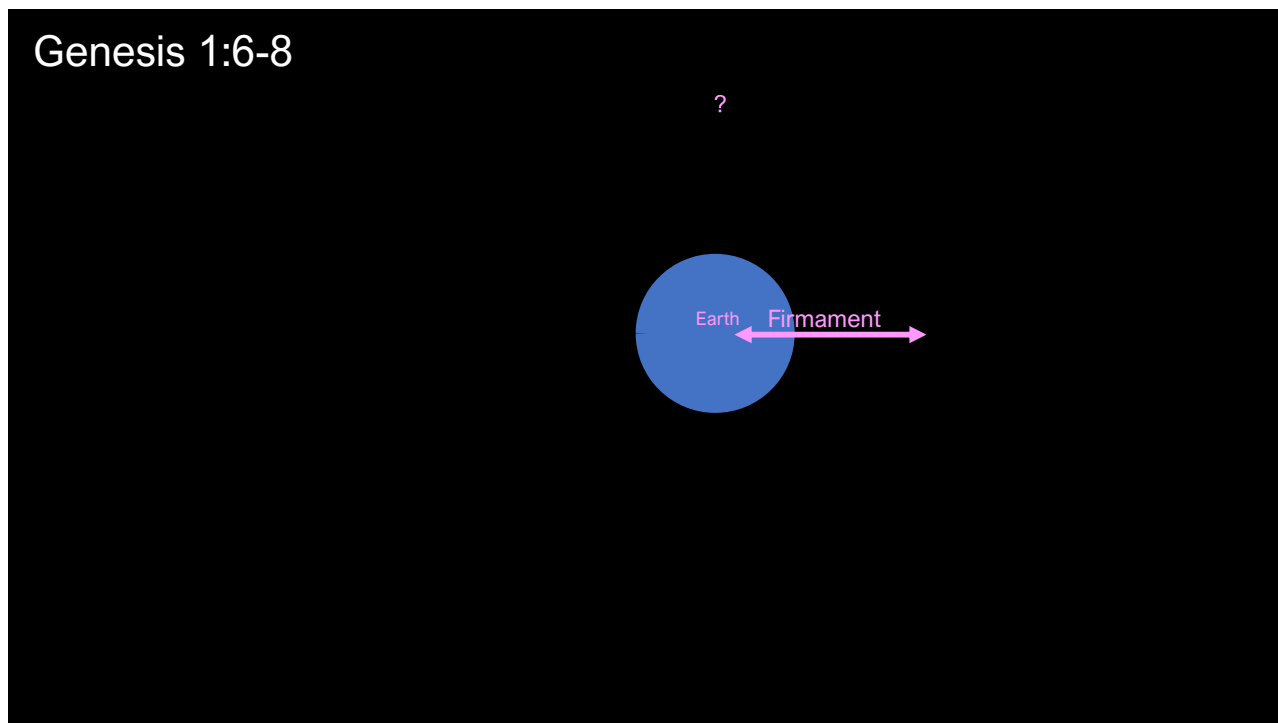
רָקִיעַ  
rāqîa'

Extended surface, expanse, firmament  
Considered by Hebrews as solid and supporting waters above

שָׁמַיִם  
Šāmayim

Visible heavens, sky

5



6

Then God said, “Let there be a **firmament** in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.” Thus God made the **firmament**, and divided the waters which were under the **firmament** from the waters which were above the **firmament**; and it was so. And God called the **firmament** **Heaven**. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

Genesis 1:6-8



What is the firmament?

7

### Possible Explanations of the Firmament

- The sky; the space between the oceans a vapor canopy?
- Not reality but a perception of the heavens. The heavenly dome?
- Outer space with a bounded universe ... bounded by water?

8

### Genesis 1:6-8

#### Bounded Universe Model

- Earth at the center
- Universe bounded by water would cause an expanding universe
- Explains Edwin Hubble's red shift observations
- Has interesting relativity / time dilatation implications

The diagram shows a central blue circle labeled 'Earth'. A pink double-headed arrow labeled 'Firmament' extends from the Earth. Above the Earth, the text 'Edge of the universe' is written in pink. The background is black.

9

The diagram shows a central blue circle representing Earth. Surrounding it is a red circle labeled 'Face of the expanse (atmosphere)'. The area between the atmosphere and the outer boundary is labeled 'Waters above'. The outer boundary is a blue circle labeled 'Expanse (outer space) Stars and planets added on Day 4'. The area between the atmosphere and the outer boundary is also labeled 'Earth covered with waters below'. The background is black with several white stars and a yellow sun and orange moon.

10

# What is Space? What is it made of?

11

## The Aether Theory

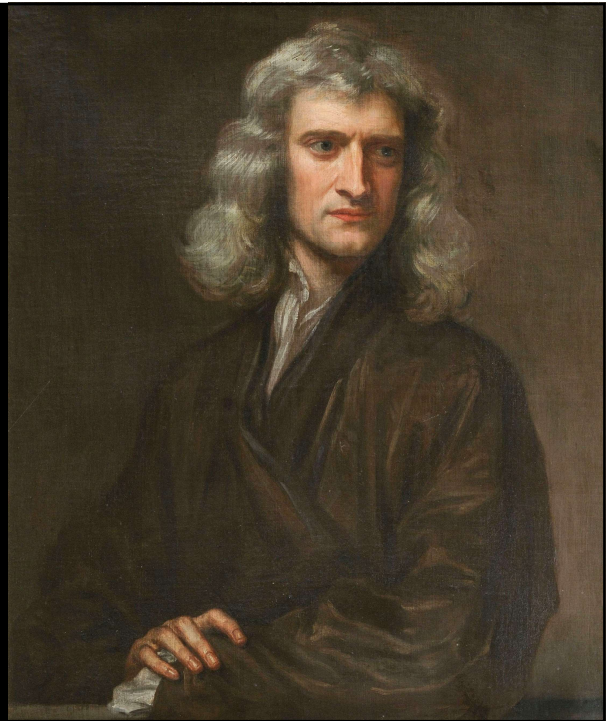
- Aristotle, thought the aether to be the fifth classical element (along with water, fire, air and earth). Aristotle claimed that the heavens can't be made by any earthly substance because they are unchanging, thus they must be made of a heavenly substance - the aether.



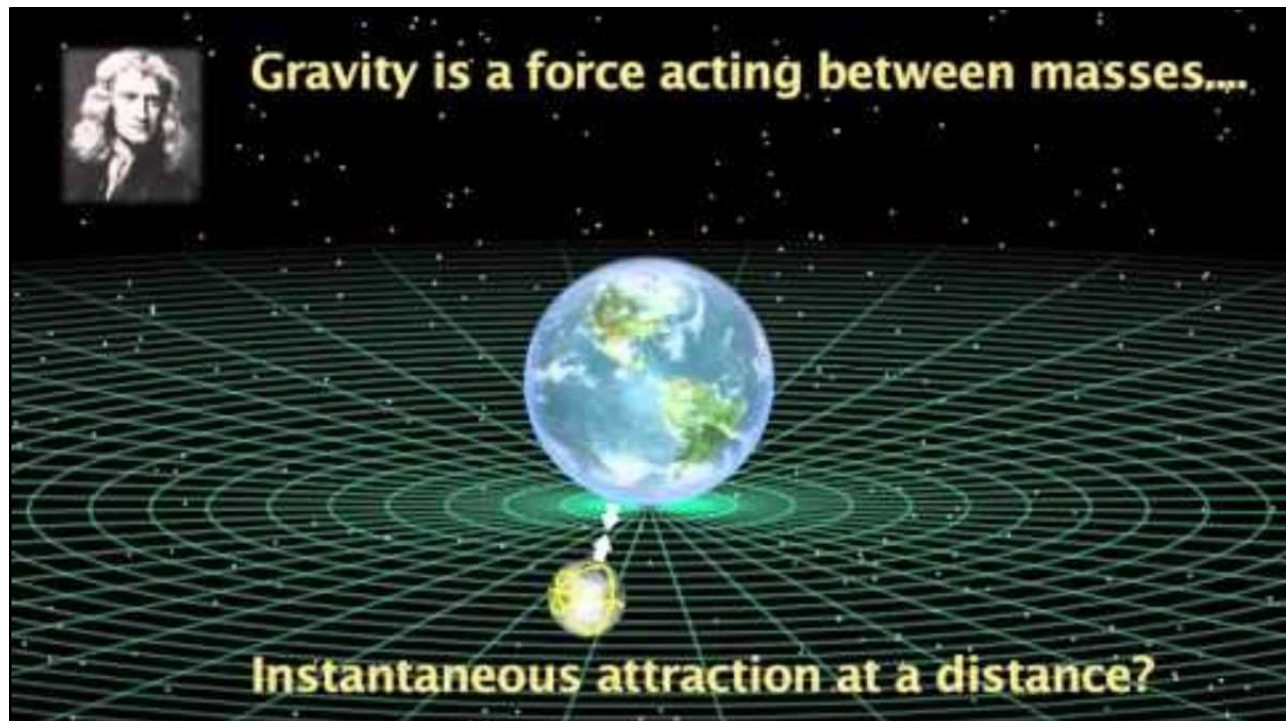
12

## The Aether Theory

- Isaac Newton postulated that aether was needed to transmit light or heat through space or a vacuum.

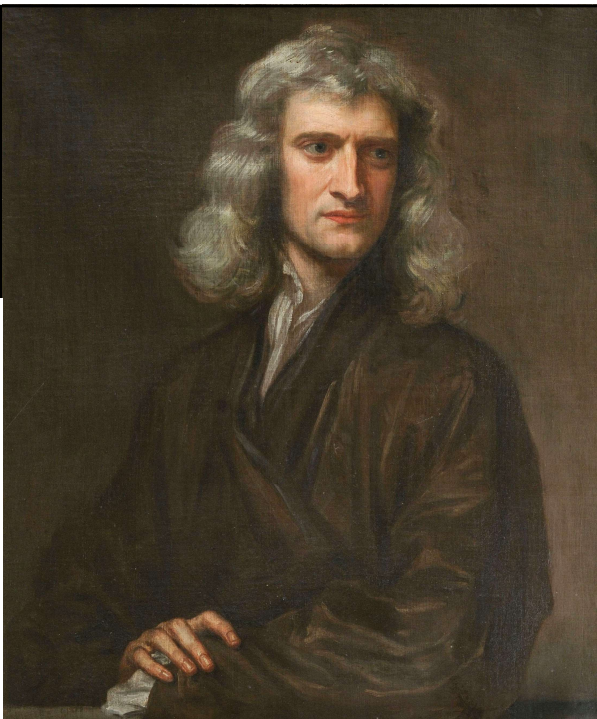
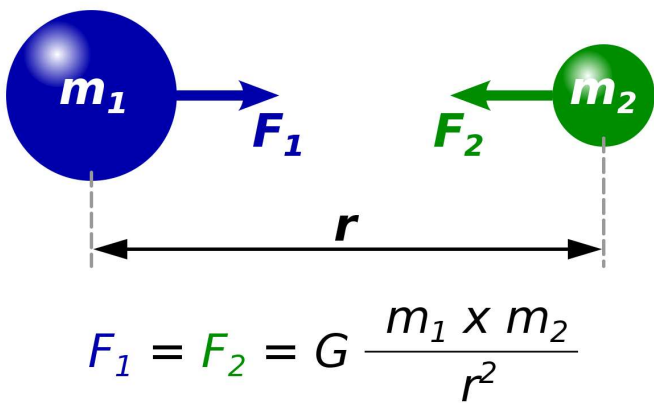


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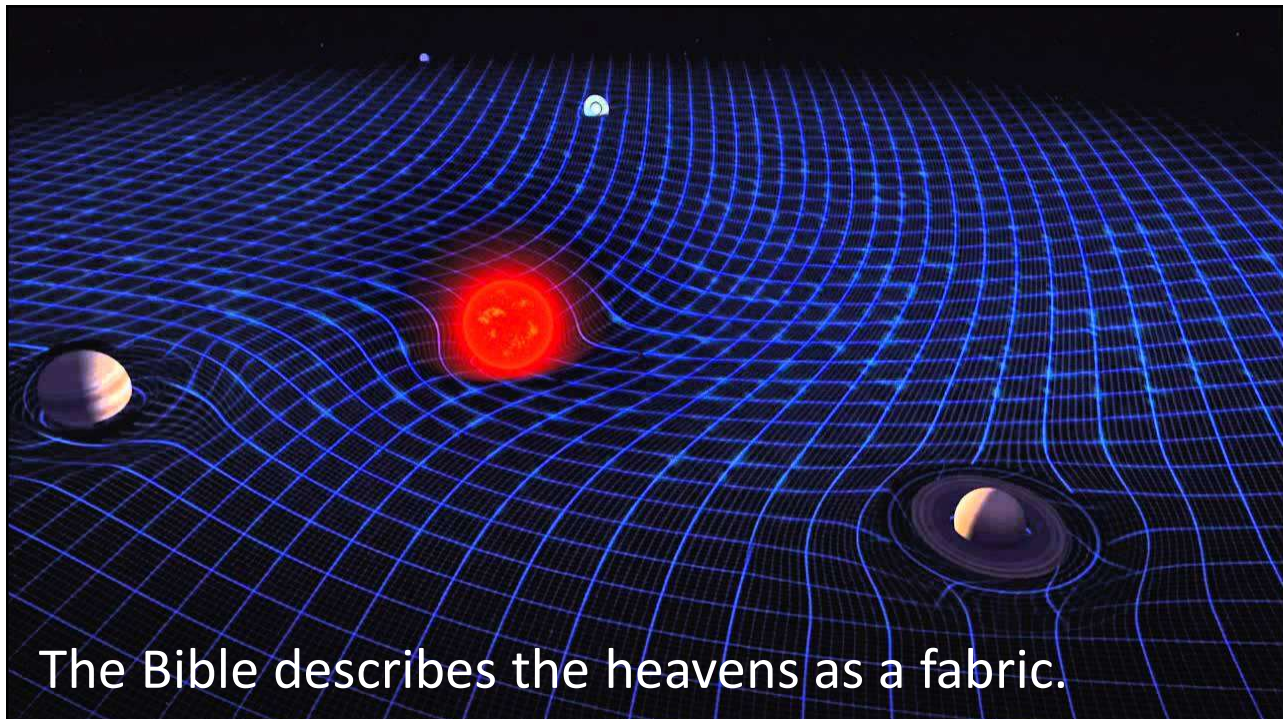
14

# Gravity



$F_1 = F_2 = G \frac{m_1 \times m_2}{r^2}$

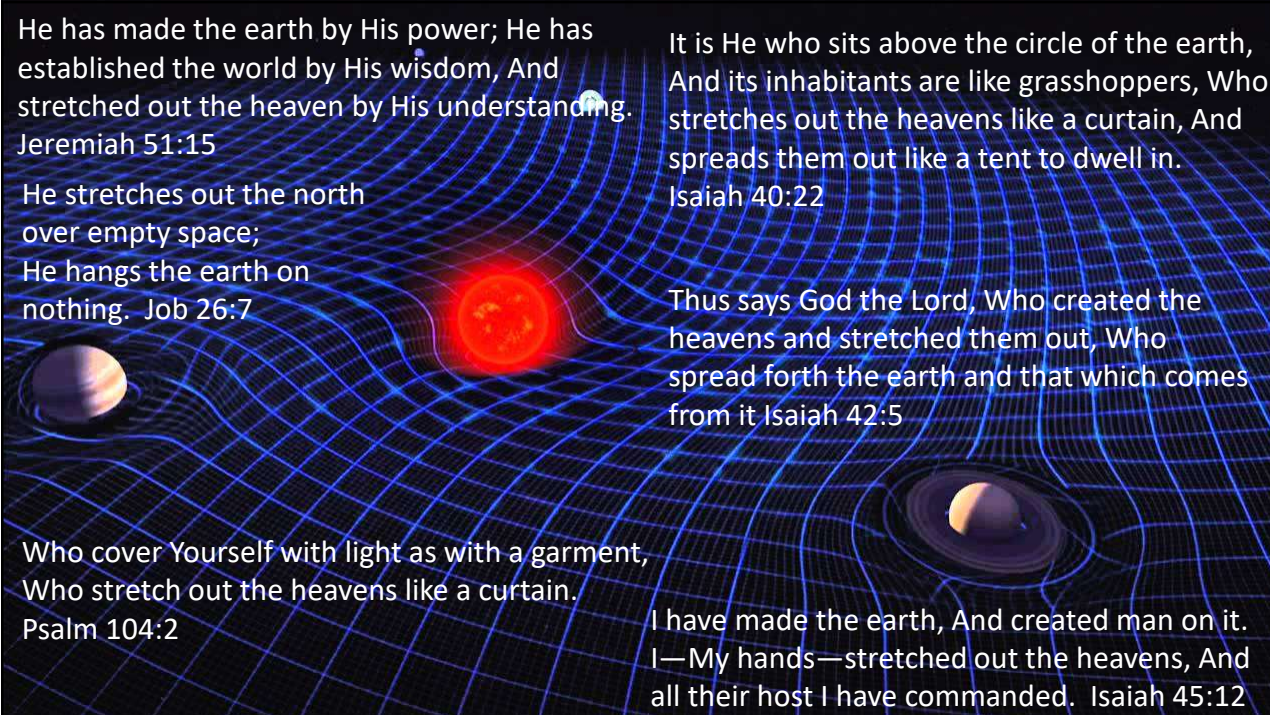
15



The Bible describes the heavens as a fabric.

16





He has made the earth by His power; He has established the world by His wisdom, And stretched out the heaven by His understanding. Jeremiah 51:15

He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing. Job 26:7

Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain. Psalm 104:2

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 out like a tent to dwell in. Isaiah 40:22

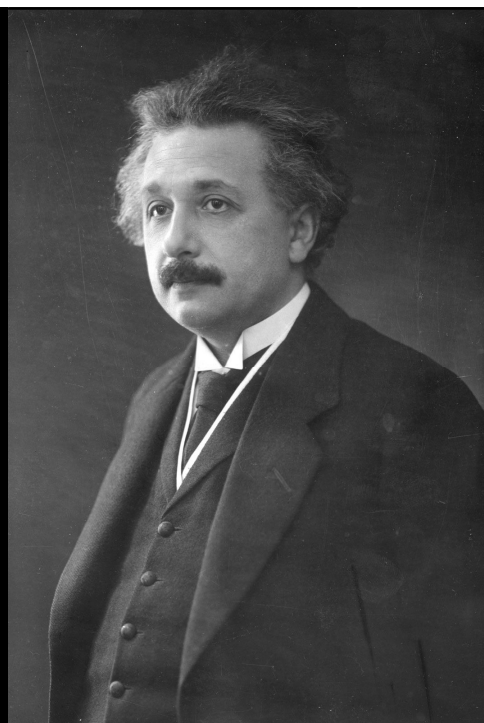
Thus says God the Lord, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it Isaiah 42:5

I have made the earth, And created man on it. I—My hands—stretched out the heavens, And all their host I have commanded. Isaiah 45:12

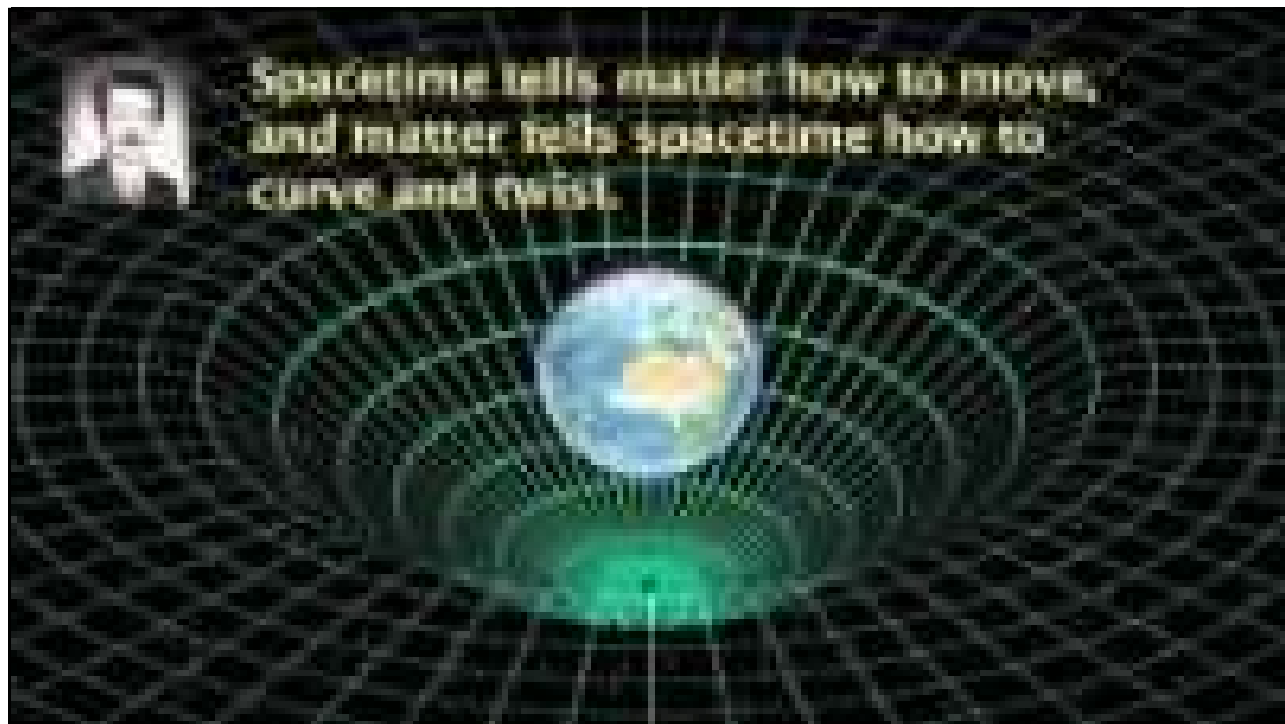
17

## Space-Time Theory

In 1915, Albert Einstein published his General Theory of Relativity. Instead of a pull of one body to another in aether, Albert Einstein saw gravity as the result of curved space. He said that all objects in the universe sit in a smooth, four-dimensional **fabric** called **space-time**. Massive objects such as the sun warp the space-time around them, and so Earth's orbit is simply the result of our planet following this curvature.



18



19

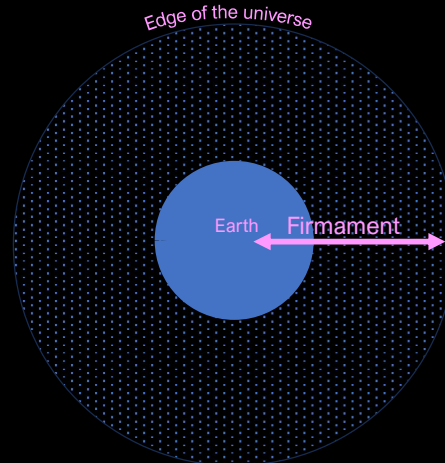


20

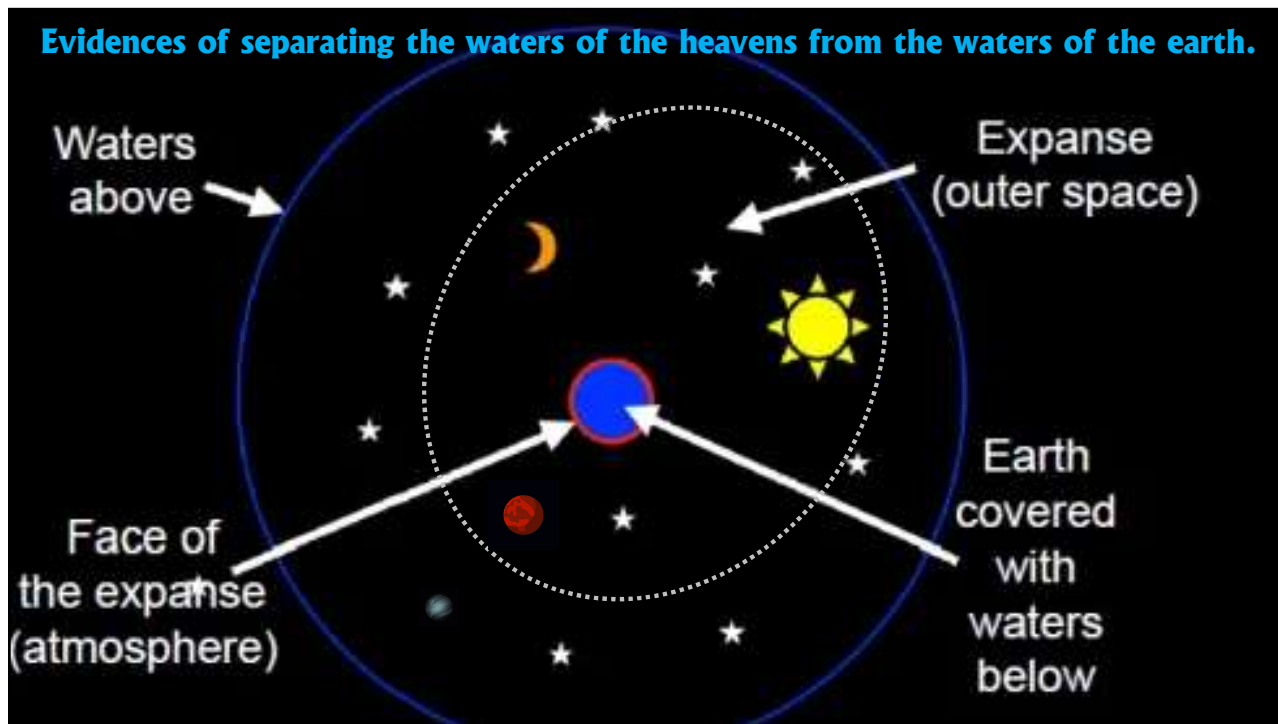
If God separated the waters below the firmament from the waters above, should we not see some evidences?

21

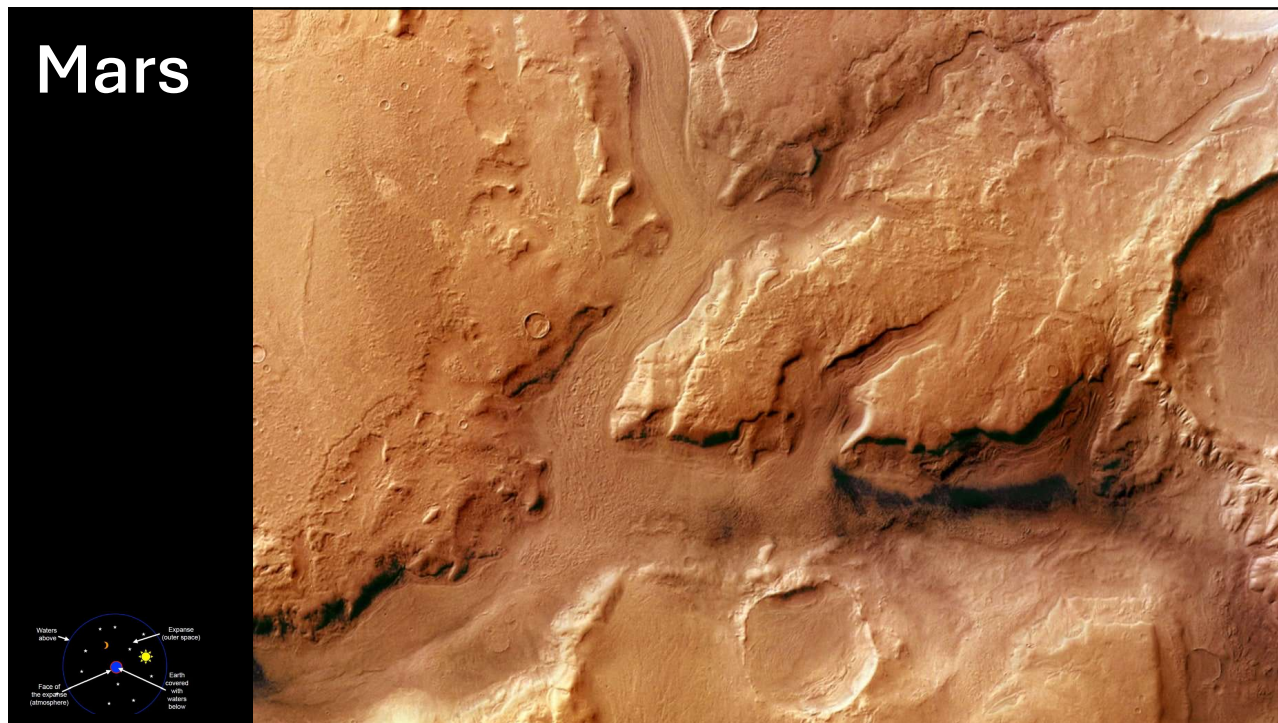
Evidences of separating the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth.



22



23



24

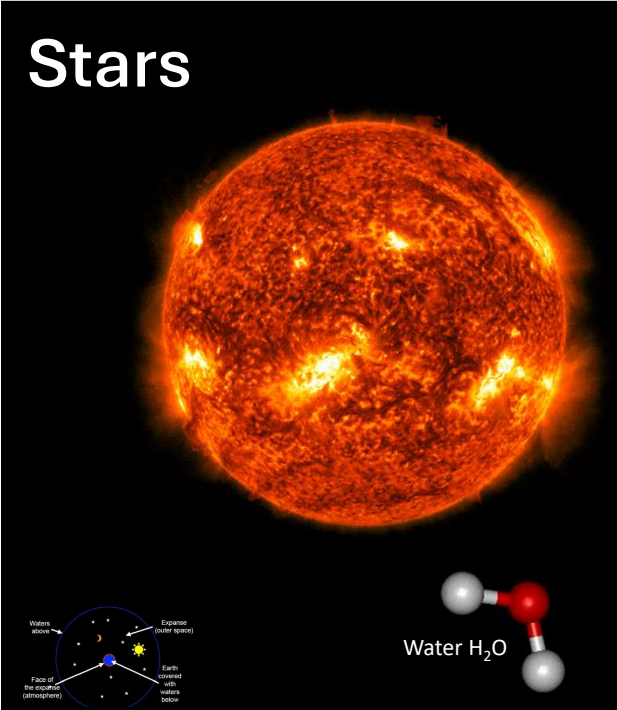


25

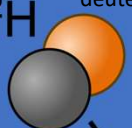


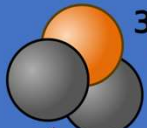
26


# Stars




Water H<sub>2</sub>O

$^2\text{H}$  deuterium  


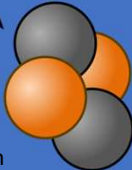
$^3\text{H}$  tritium  




Fusion



neutron  
 $n + 14.1 \text{ MeV}$



Helium  
 $^4\text{He} + 3.5 \text{ MeV}$


27


# Evidences for a Bounded Universe

In 2011, astronomers, including a team led by Matt Bradford of JPL, found a feeding black hole soaking in water vapor.

Two teams of astronomers have discovered the largest and farthest reservoir of water ever detected in the universe. The water, equivalent to 140 trillion times all the water in the world's ocean, surrounds a huge, feeding black hole, called a quasar, more than 12 billion light-years away.

"The environment around this quasar is very unique in that it's producing this huge mass of water," said Matt Bradford, a scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. "It's another demonstration that water is pervasive throughout the universe, even at the very earliest times." Bradford leads one of the teams that made the discovery. His team's research is partially funded by NASA and appears in the Astrophysical Journal Letters.





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**Psalm 148:3-4**  
 Praise Him, sun and moon;  
 Praise Him, all you stars of light!  
 Praise Him, you heavens of heavens,  
 And you waters above the heavens!

שָׁמַיִם *shamayim*  
*heaven, heavens, sky*

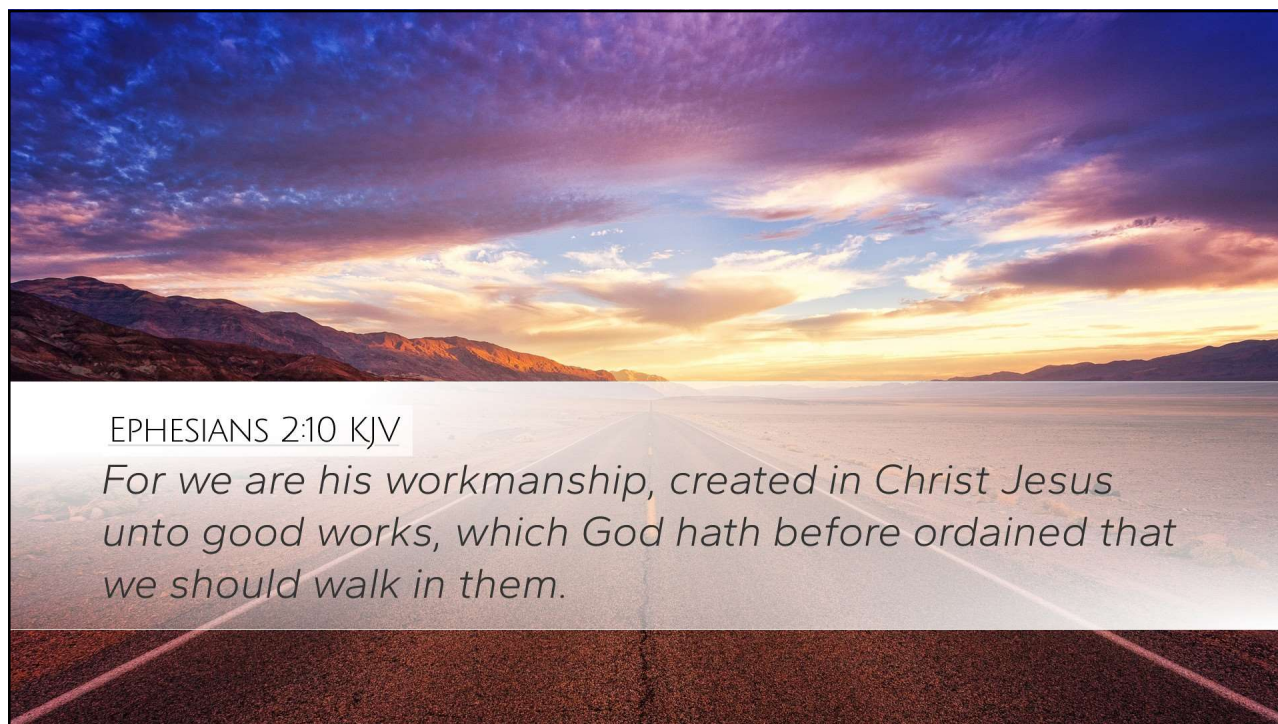
29

**Psalm 19:1**  
 The heavens declare the glory of God;  
 And the firmament shows His  
 handiwork.

שָׁמַיִם *shamayim*  
*heaven, heavens, sky*

רָקִיעַ *raqiya*  
*Expanse or visible arch of the sky*

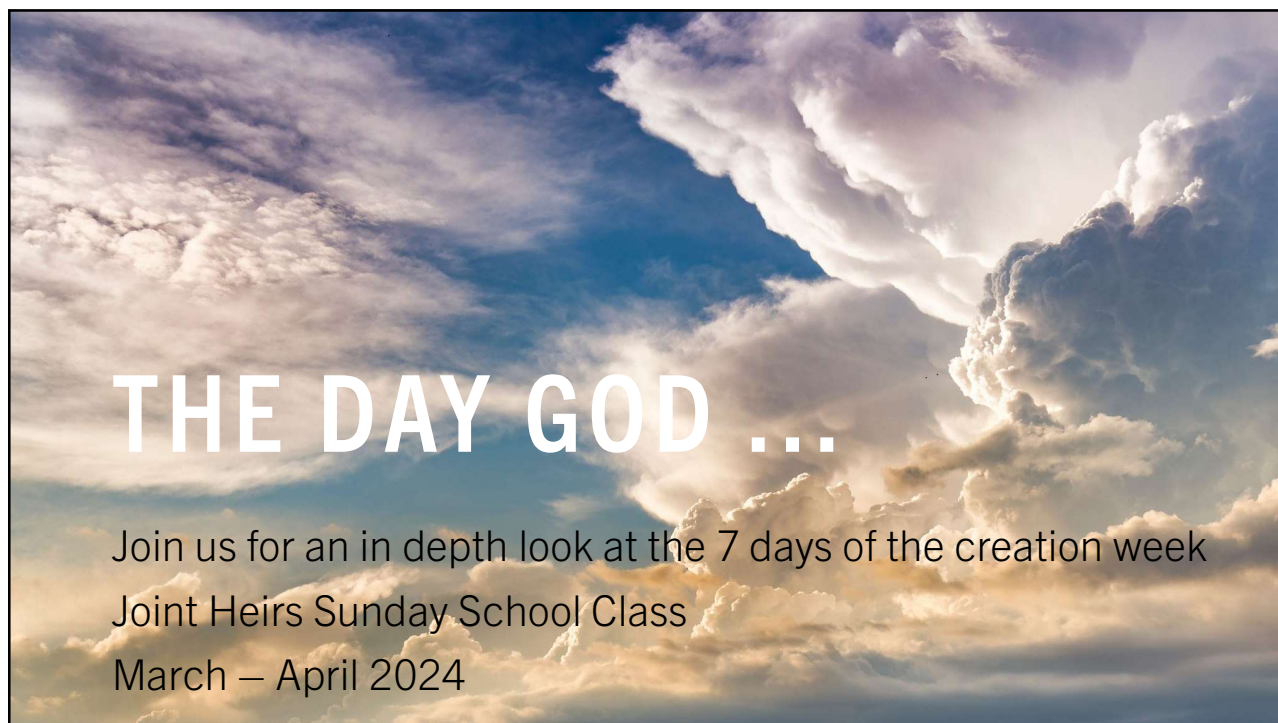
30



EPHESIANS 2:10 KJV

*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

31



# THE DAY GOD ...

Join us for an in depth look at the 7 days of the creation week  
Joint Heirs Sunday School Class  
March – April 2024

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