



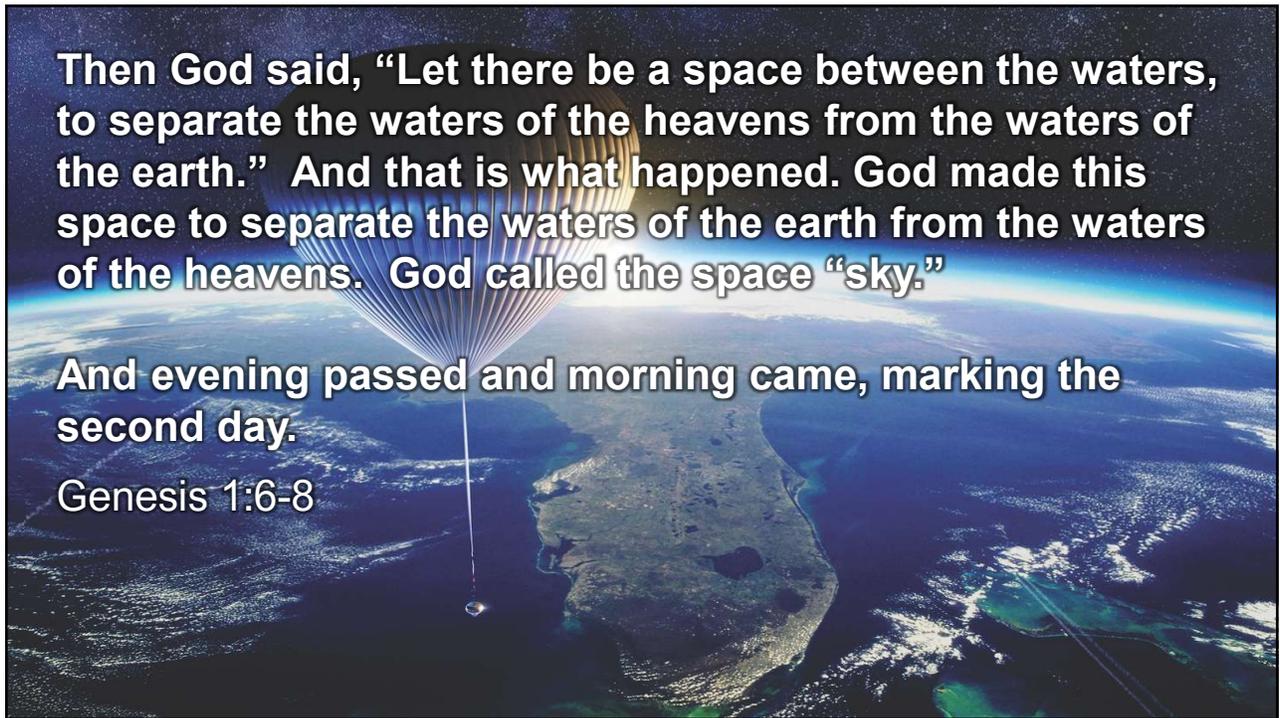
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Then God said, “Let there be a space between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth.” And that is what happened. God made this space to separate the waters of the earth from the waters of the heavens. God called the space “sky.”

And evening passed and morning came, marking the second day.

Genesis 1:6-8

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
Šāmāyim

Visible heavens, sky

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Ancient Hebrew Concept of the Universe

Ancient Hebrew Conception of the Universe

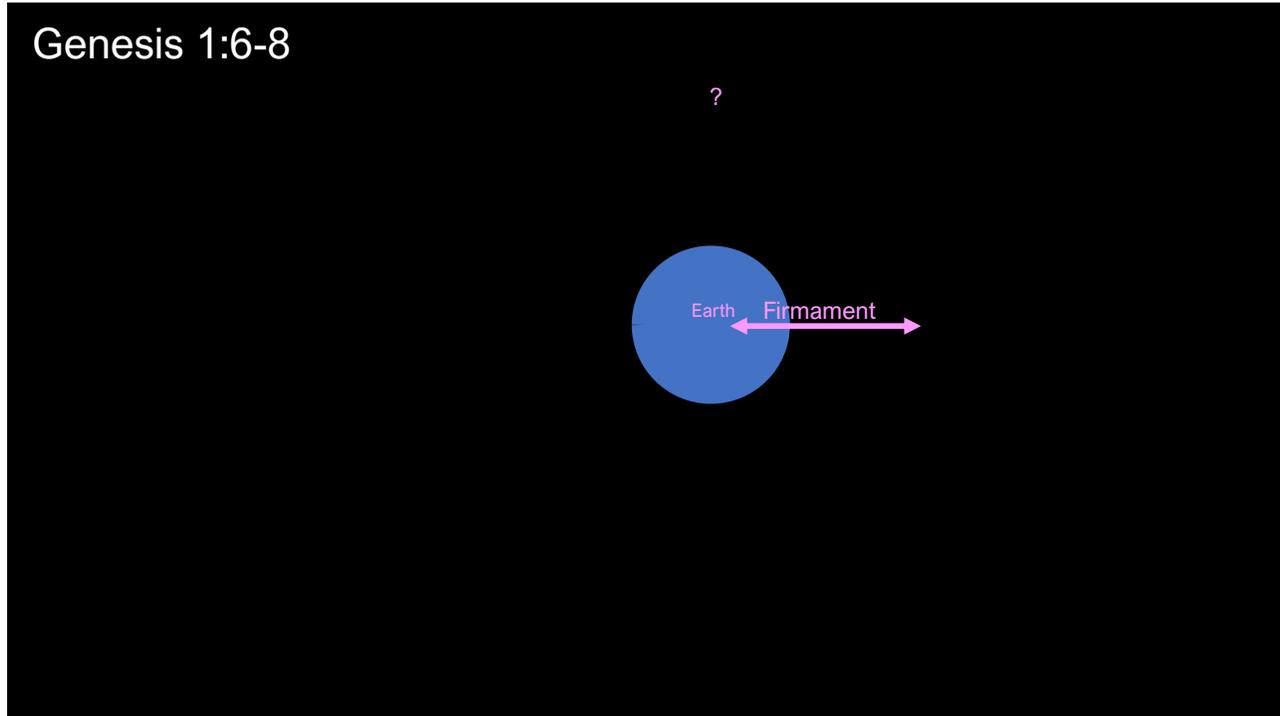
The ancient Israelites divided the world into Heaven, Earth, Sea, and the Underworld

They viewed the sky as a vault resting on foundations—perhaps mountains—with doors and windows that let in the rain. God dwelt above the sky, hidden in cloud and majesty.

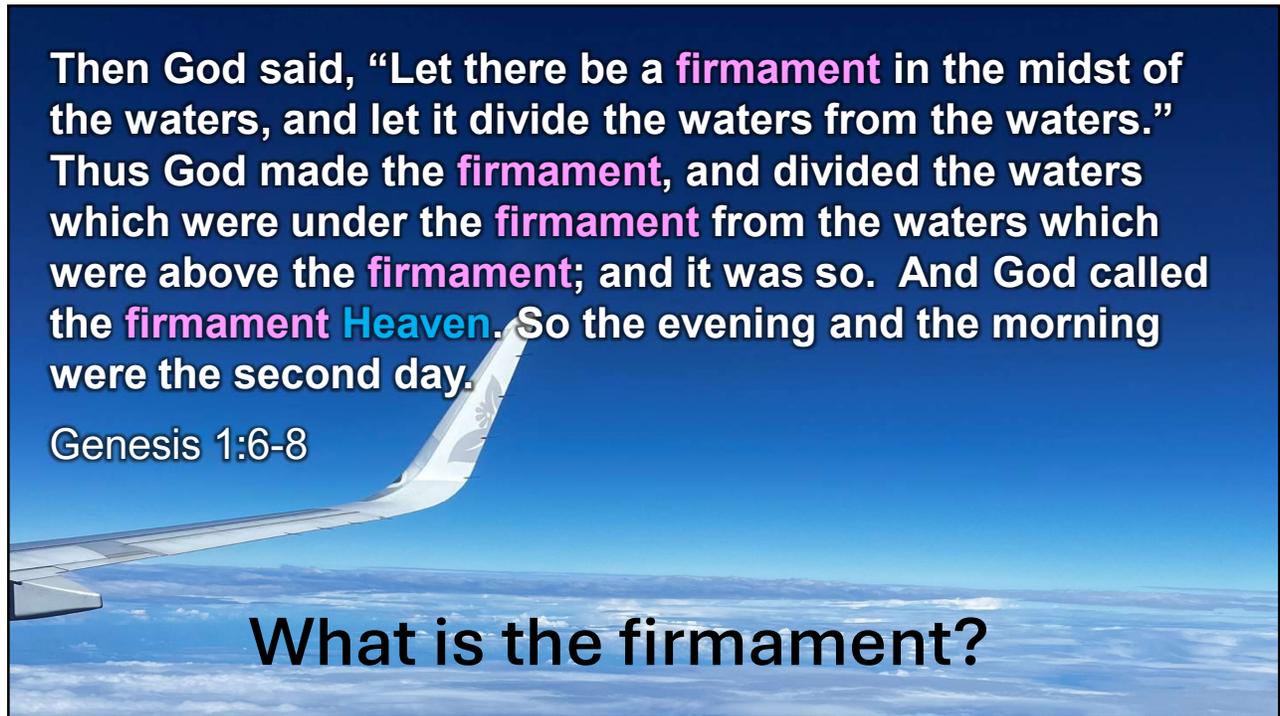
The world was viewed as a disk floating on the waters, secured or moored by pillars. The earth was the only known domain—the realm beyond it was considered unknowable.

The Underworld (Sheol) was a watery or dusty prison from which no one returned. Regarded as a physical place beneath the earth, it could be reached only through death.

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Possible Explanations of the Firmament

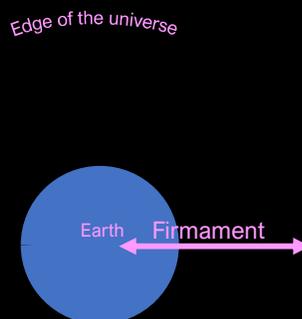
- The sky; the space between the ocean and a vapor canopy?
- Not reality but a perception of the heavens. The heavenly dome?
- Outer space with a bounded universe ... bounded by water?

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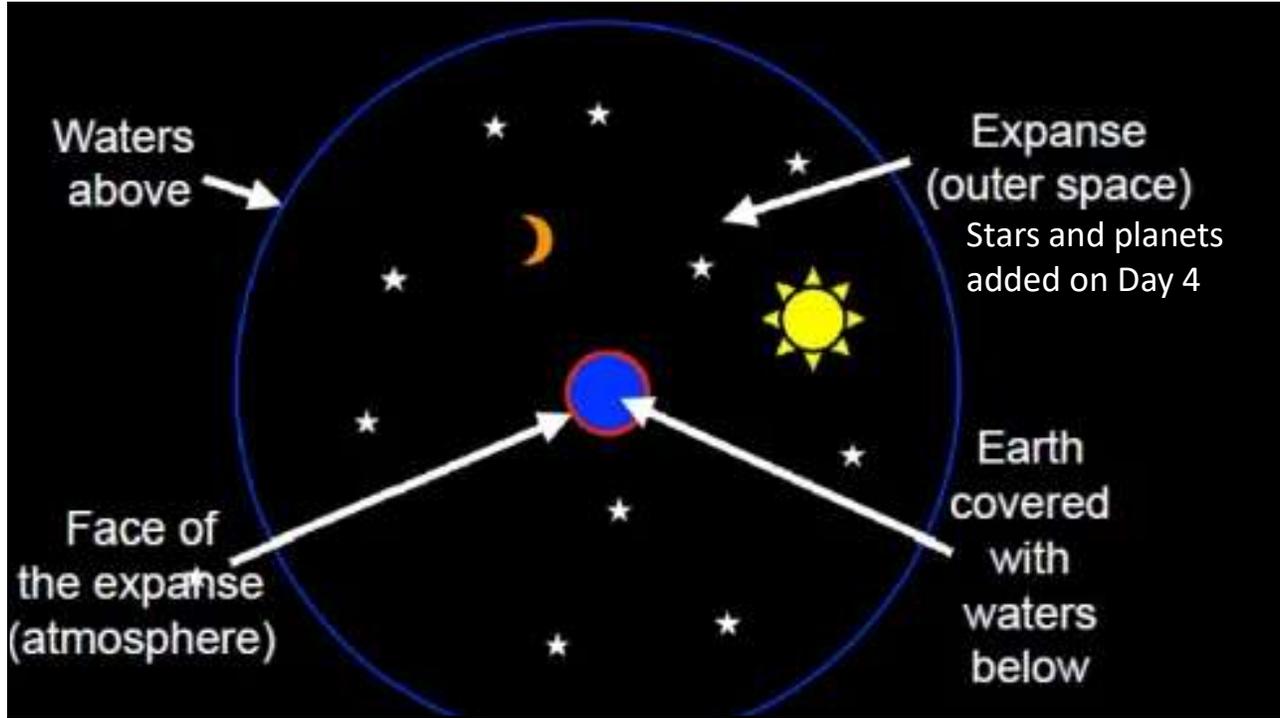
Genesis 1:6-8

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



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**What is Space?
What is it made of?**

12

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.



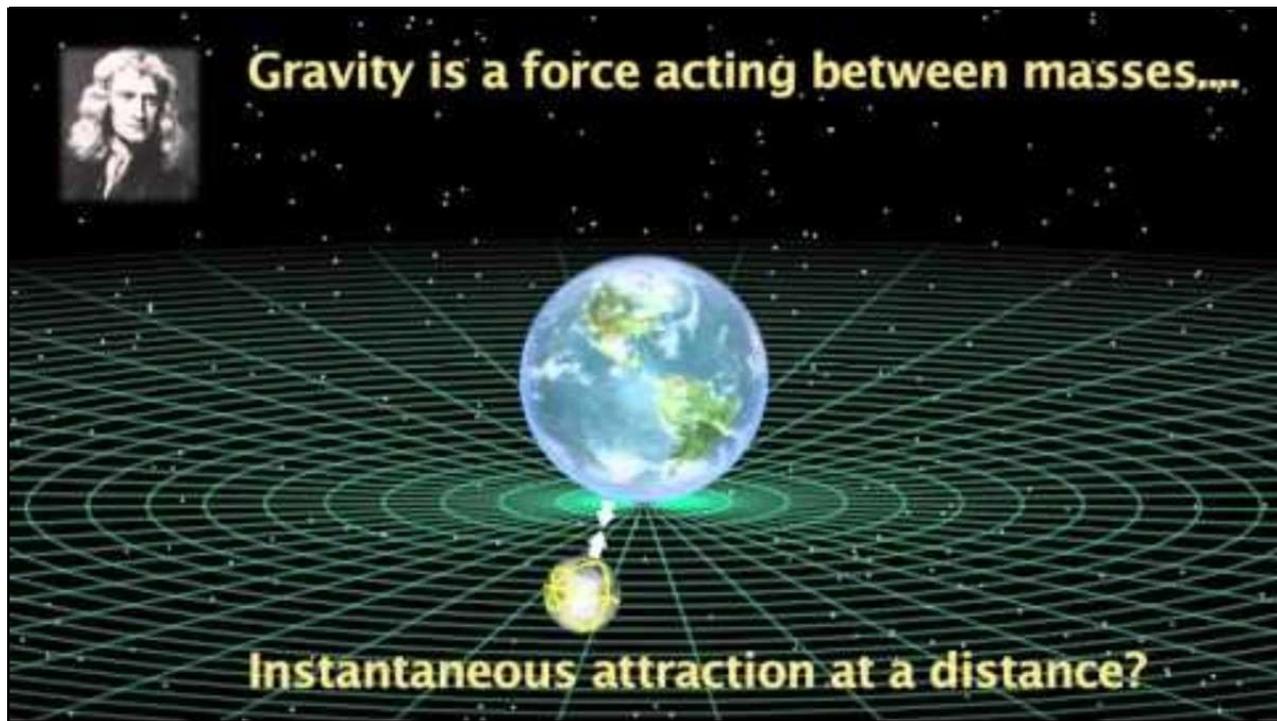
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The Aether Theory

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



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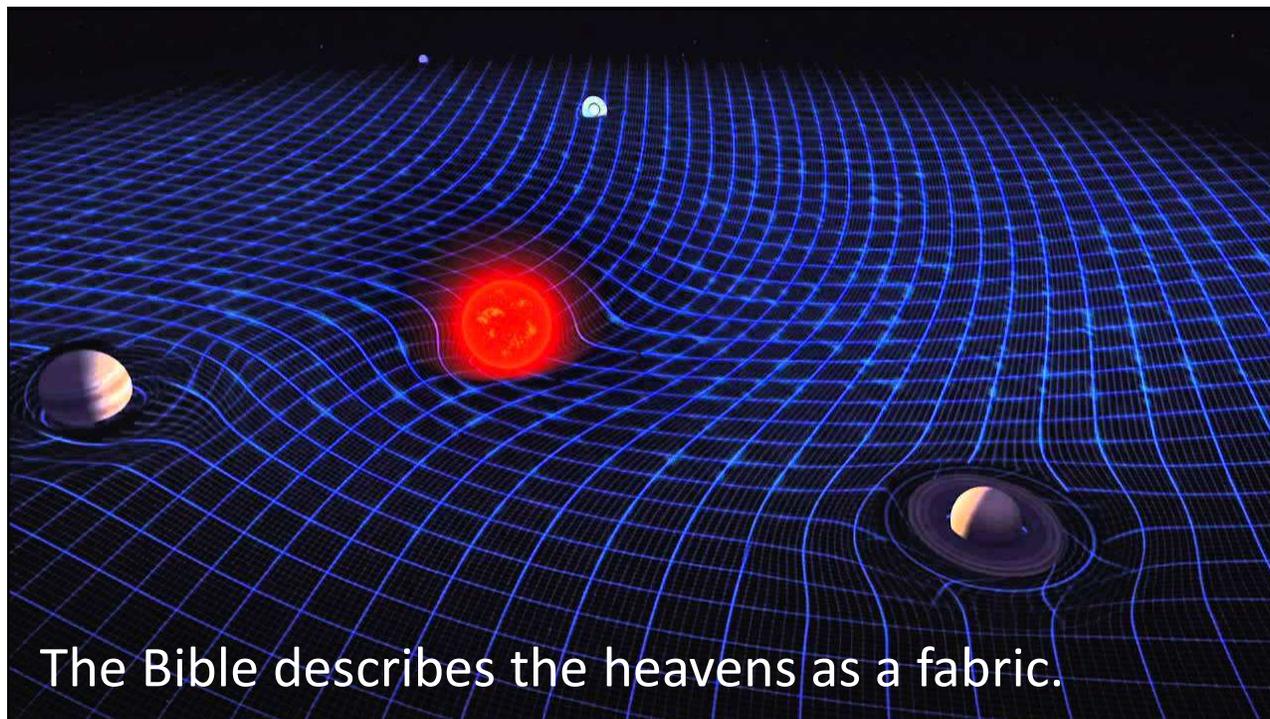
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Gravity

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

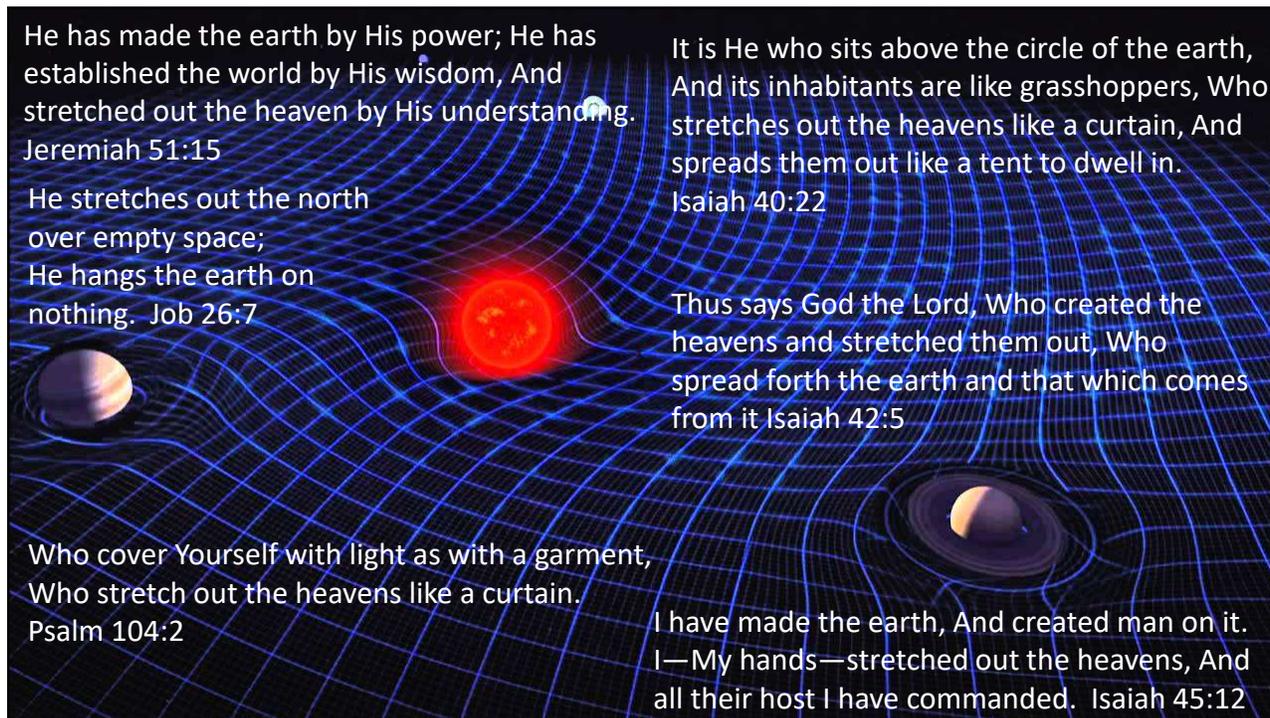
The slide is divided into two main sections. The left section contains a diagram of two masses, m_1 (blue) and m_2 (green), separated by a distance r . Blue arrows labeled F_1 point from m_1 towards m_2 , and green arrows labeled F_2 point from m_2 towards m_1 . Below the diagram is the equation $F_1 = F_2 = G \frac{m_1 \times m_2}{r^2}$. The right section is a portrait of Isaac Newton.

16



The Bible describes the heavens as a fabric.

17



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

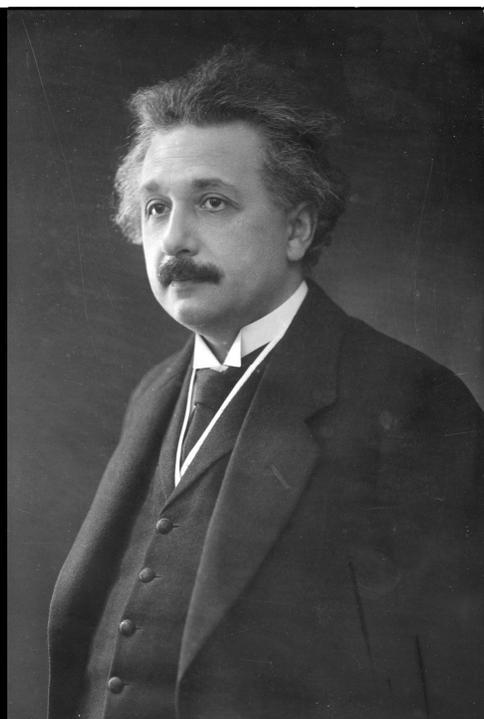
Thus says God the Lord, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it Isaiah 42:5

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

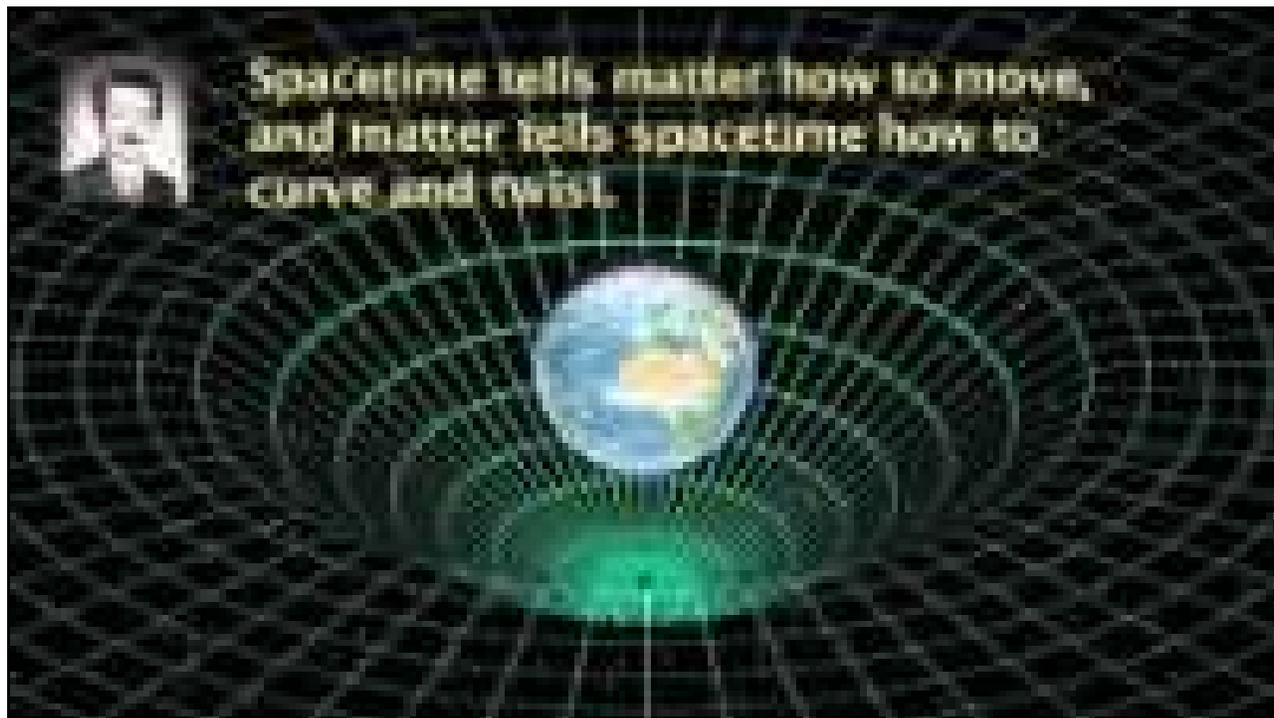
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Space-Time Theory

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.



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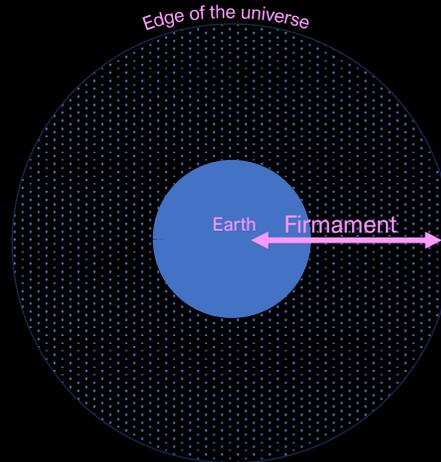


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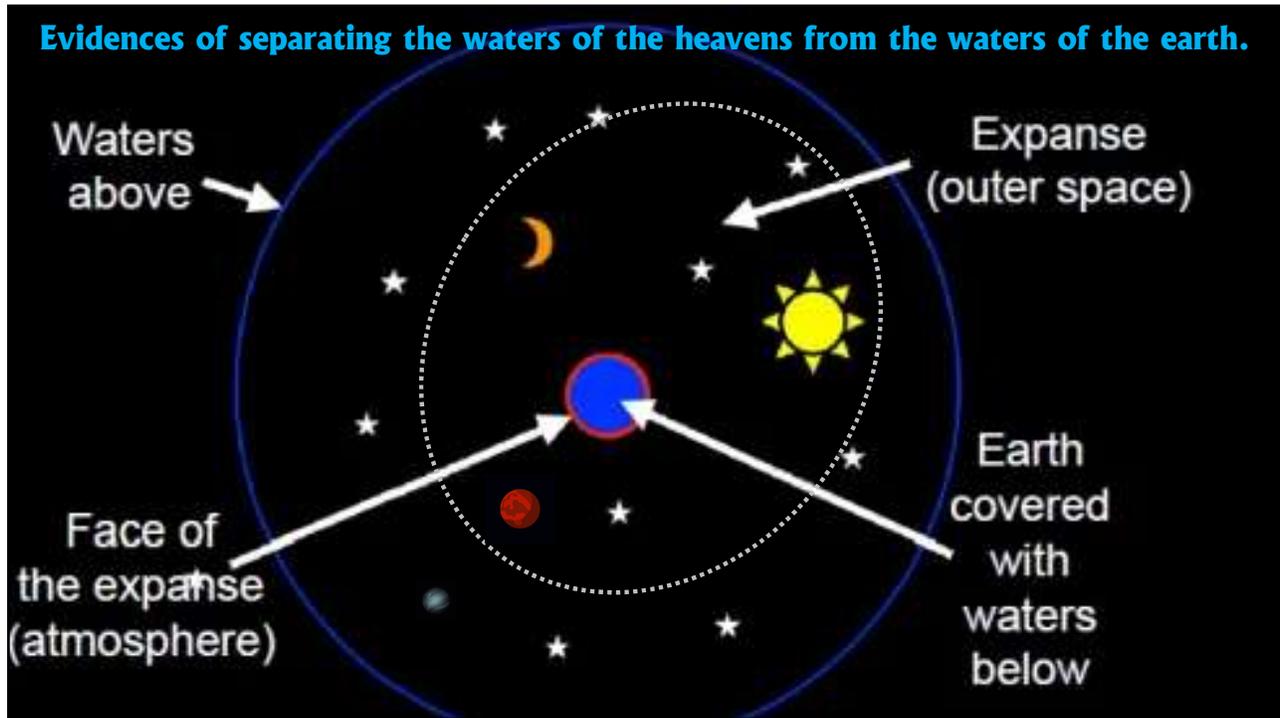
If God separated the waters below the firmament from the waters above, should we not see some evidences?

21

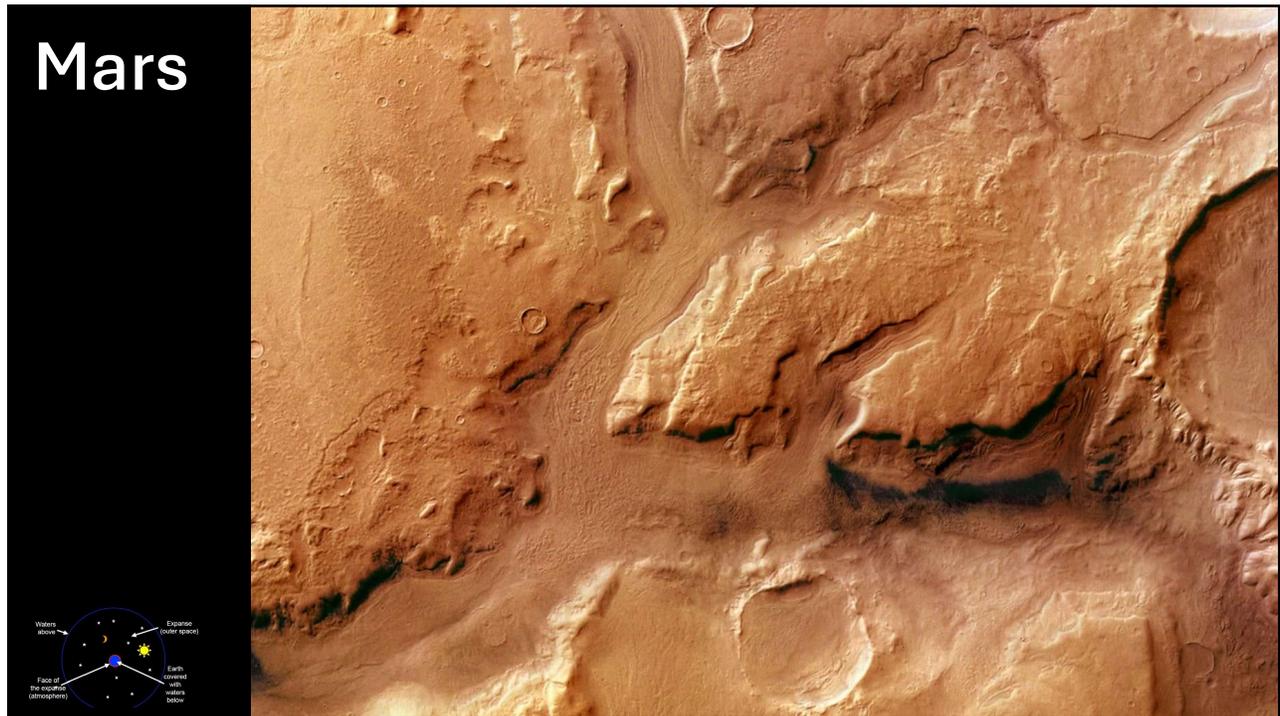
Evidences of separating the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth.



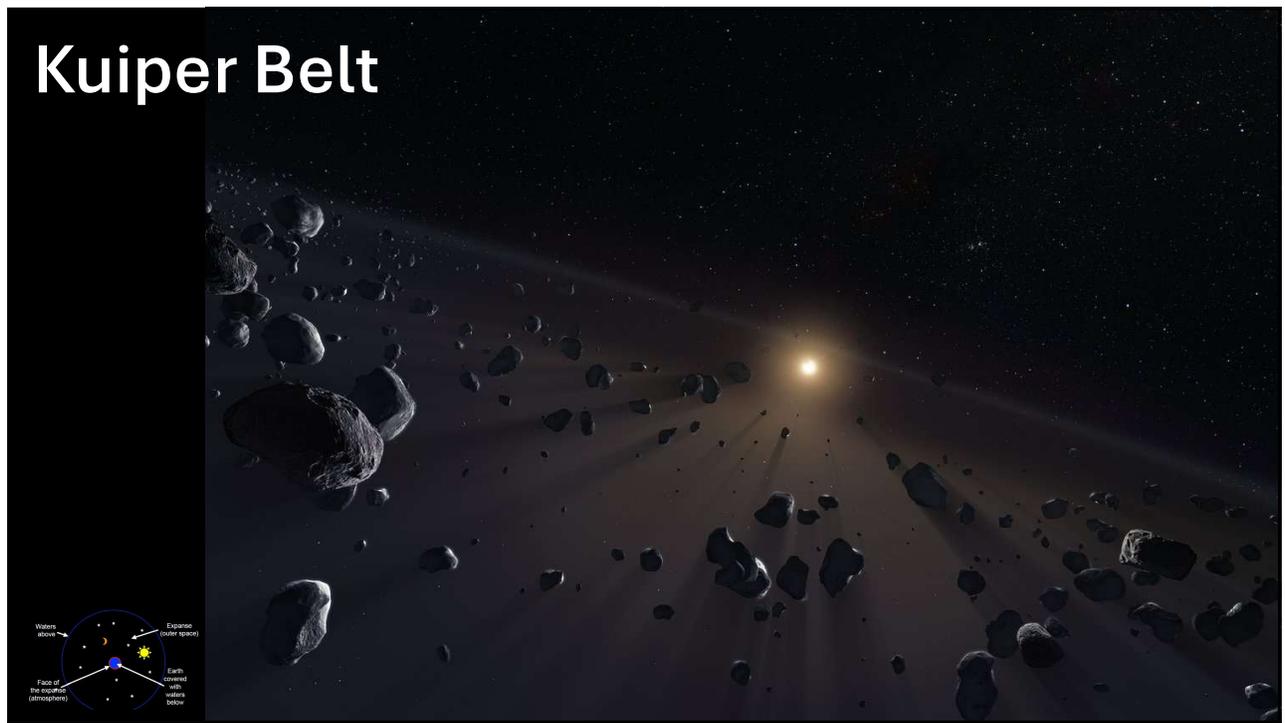
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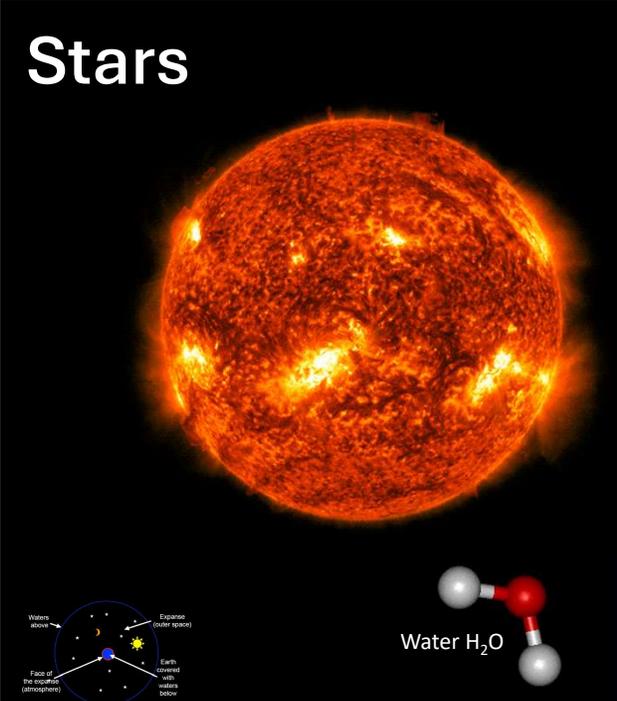


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Stars

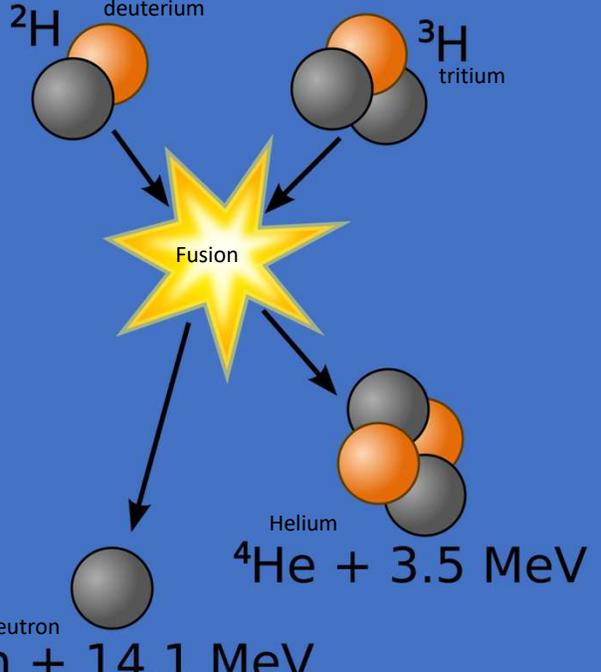


Water above → Expansion (outer space)
Earth covered with water below
Face of the sun (atmosphere)

Water H₂O

^2H
deuterium

^3H
tritium



Fusion

$n + 14.1 \text{ MeV}$
neutron

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

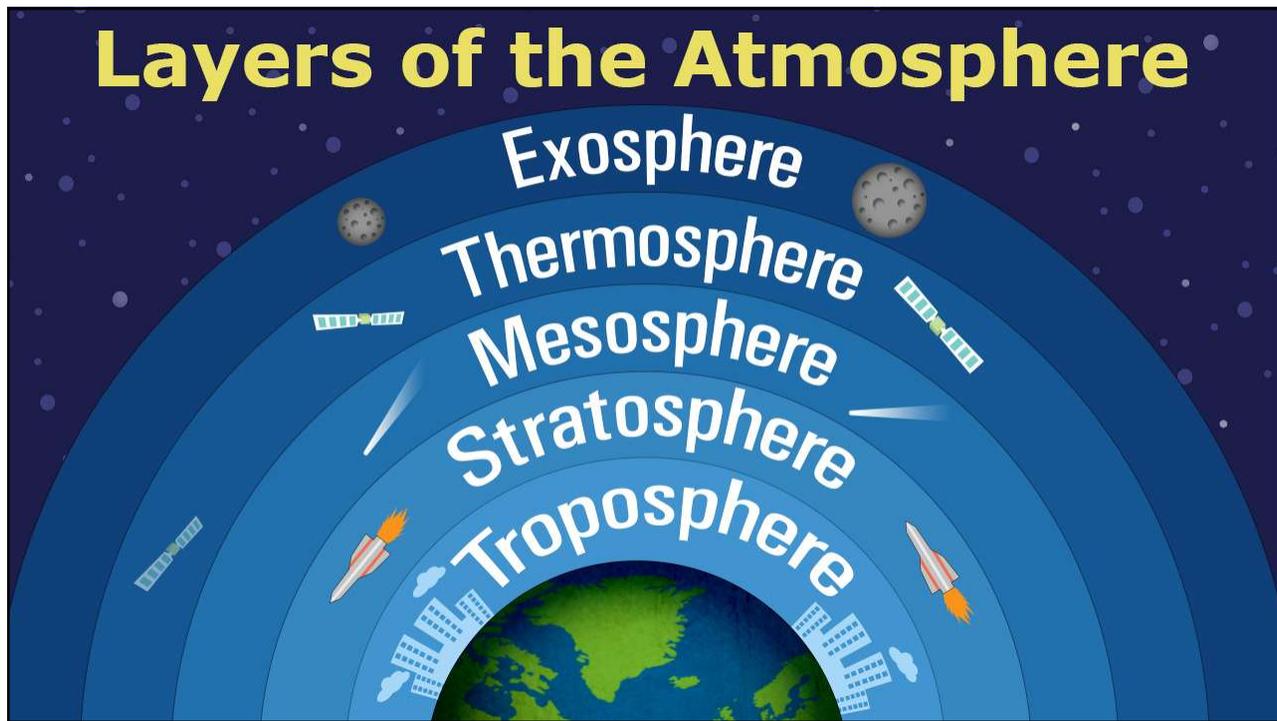
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Psalm 148:3-4

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

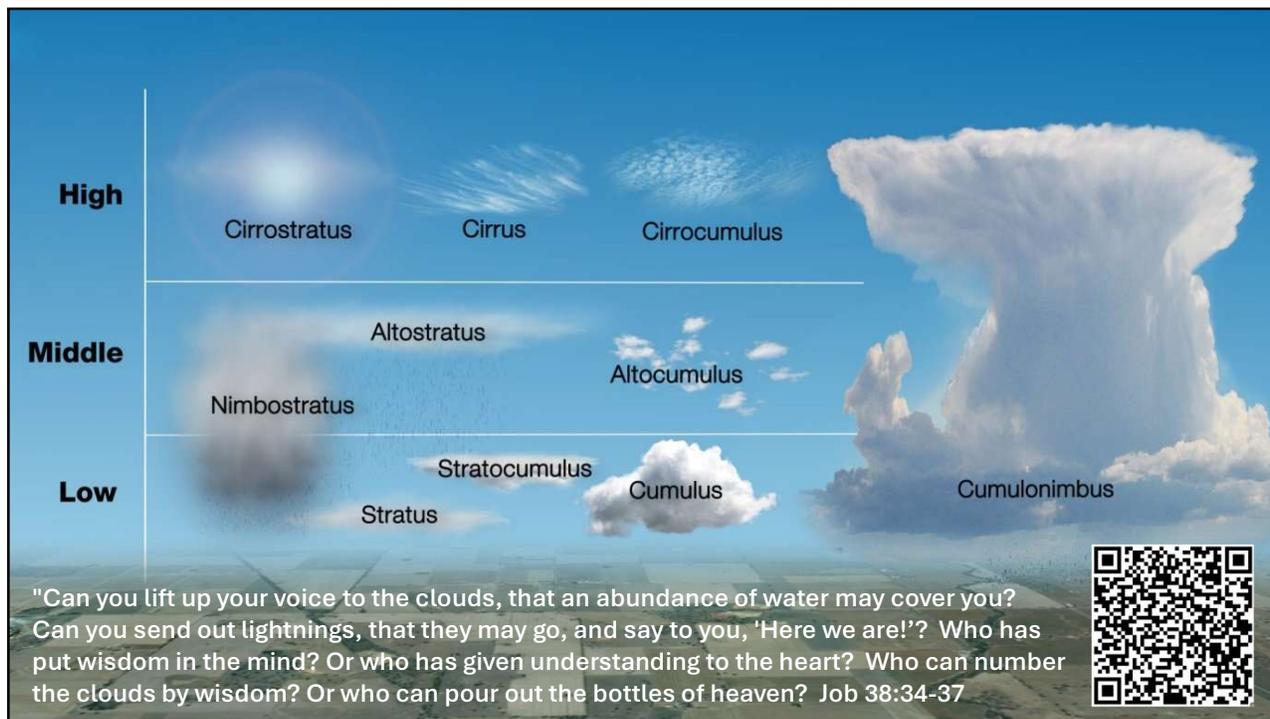
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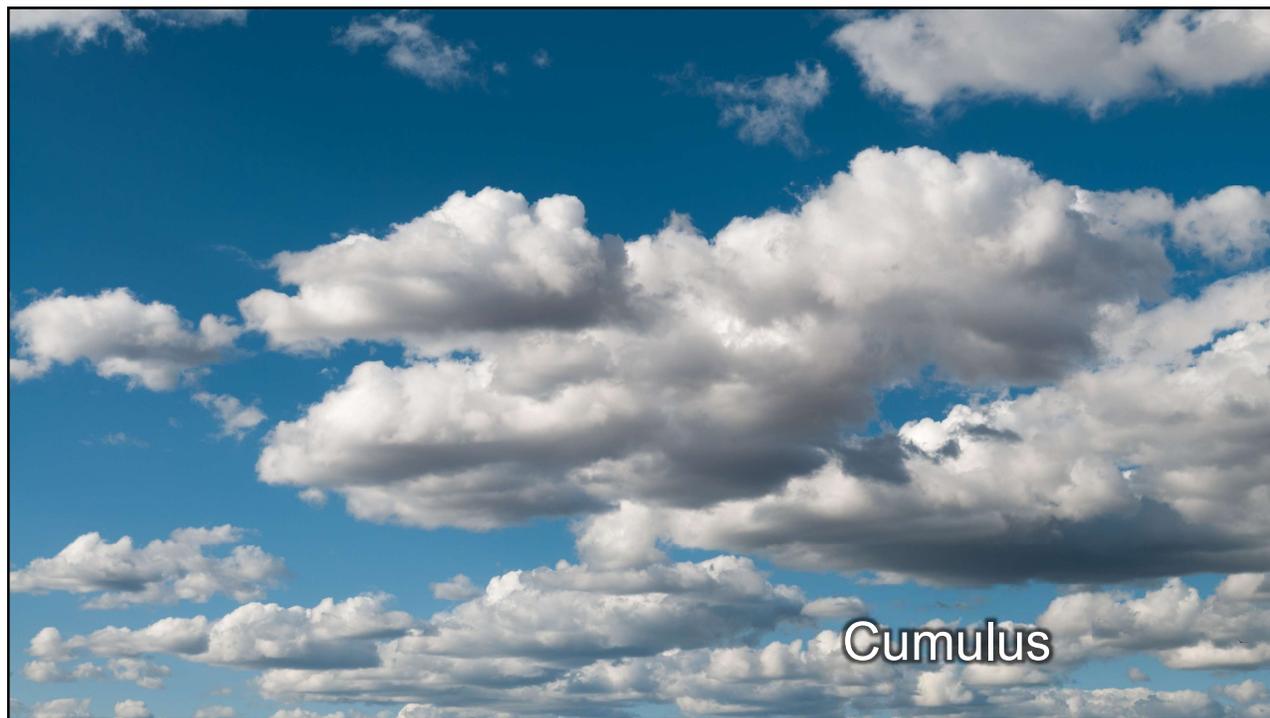
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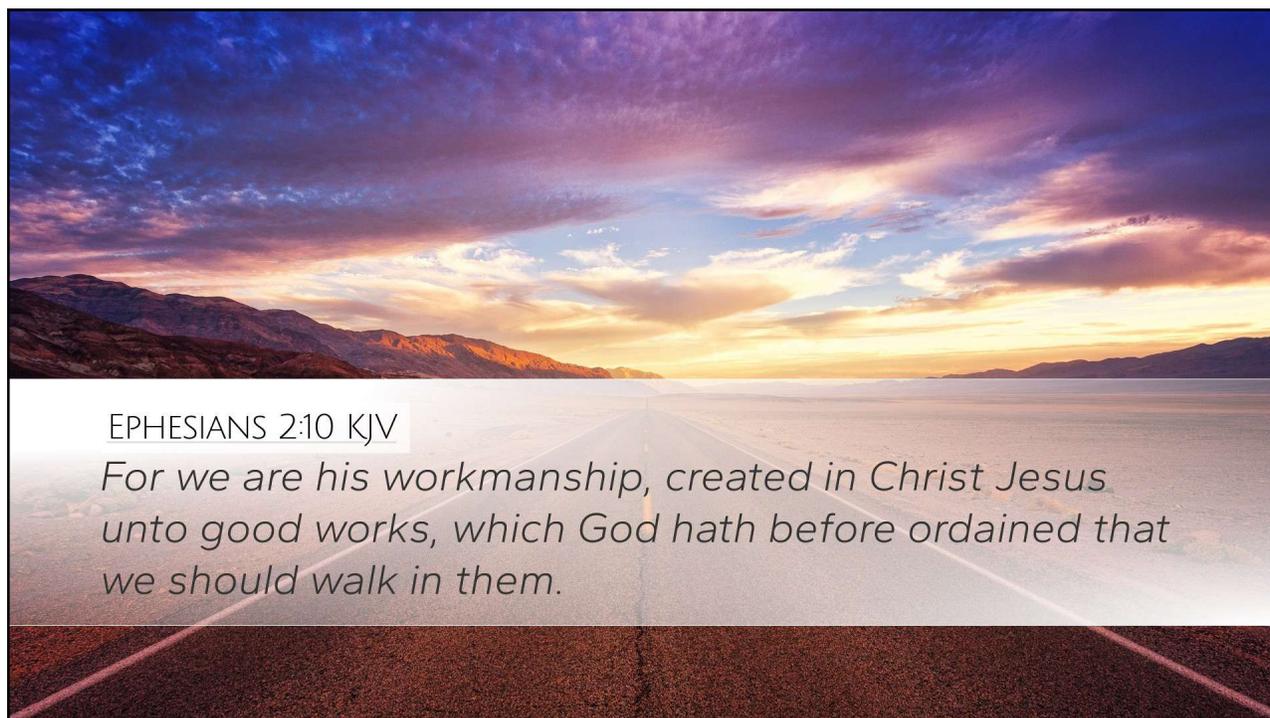


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Psalm 19:1
The **heavens** declare the glory of God;
And the **firmament** shows His
handiwork.

שָׁמַיִם *shamayim*
*heaven, heavens, sky***רָקִיעַ** *raqiya*
Expanse or visible arch of the sky

37



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.*

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