

## 2018 Creation – The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

### What did God write in the heavens about His creation?

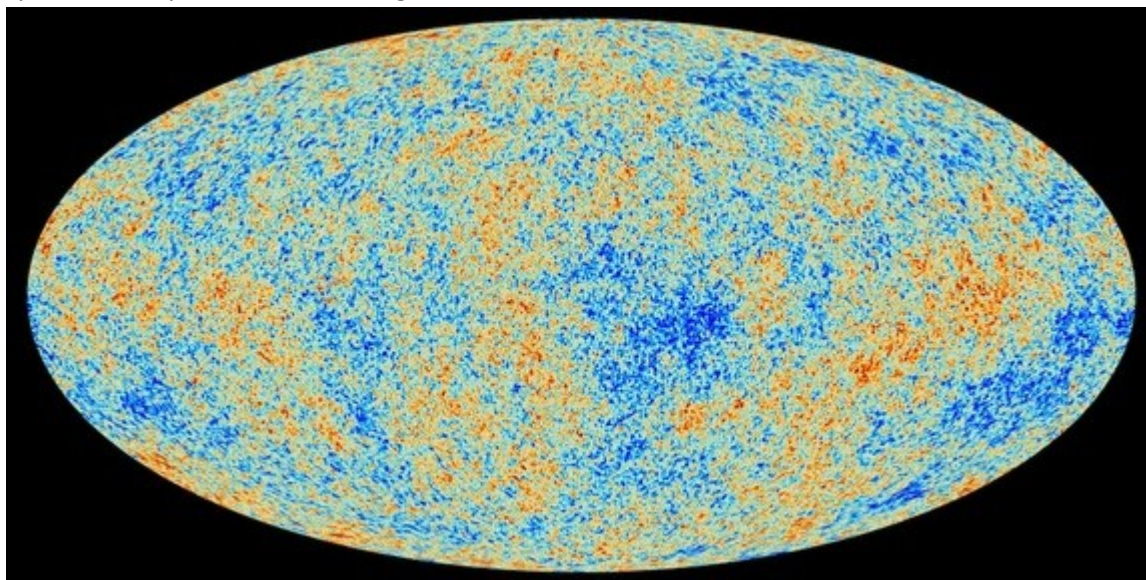
"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world." Psalm 19:1-4

Genesis 1:1-3 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. Then God said, ..."

### "The heavens declare the glory of God" – The heavens prove there was a beginning

- Red shift in galaxies – the universe is expanding rapidly
  - o Distant galaxies show a red shift. They are receding.
    - Elements emit light at characteristic frequencies (colors)
    - Frequencies change when a source and observer are moving. (The pitch of a train whistle drops as it passes.)
    - A light source moving away will have a longer (redder) wavelength
    - More distant galaxies are receding more quickly
    - Therefore universe is expanding
  - o General relativity theory also requires expansion or contraction of the universe
- Cosmic microwave background radiation – 2.73°K shows energy released at the beginning
  - o It fits a perfect red-shifted blackbody curve, explainable in no other way
  - o Ripples much less than 0.001°K show the critical variation designed into the initial event

A 2013 map of the background radiation left over from the Big Bang, taken by the ESA's Planck spacecraft, captured the oldest light in the universe.



The laws of thermodynamics also require a beginning

- The first law, called the conservation of mass and energy, states that neither can be created nor destroyed. A beginning cannot be described by natural laws.
- The second law says that entropy (disorder) cannot decrease in a physical interaction. As energy radiates, it becomes more random, so less is available for work.
  - o An eternal universe would have worn out an eternity ago.
  - o The universe must have begun with an incredible amount of order.
  - o Psalm 102:25-26 says “In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded.

**“The skies proclaim the work of his hands”** – The heavens show an amazingly tuned design

- We see the initial creation event was in no way a random “explosion”, but was perfectly ordered to create a universe compatible with life as we know it. A random explosion creates disorder.
- The background radiation has non-uniformities that are barely detectable, but show that the initial energy variation was tuned just right to allow formation of stars and galaxies, instead of just uniform hydrogen or swarms of black holes and giant stars. A star like our sun enables life.
- Physicists say the four fundamental forces: gravity, electromagnetism, and the strong and weak nuclear forces are also critically tuned for elements to be able to form and stars to be stable.
- The rate of expansion of the universe is tuned to be barely fast enough to allow for livable conditions, and barely slow enough for stars and galaxies to form.
- The resonance of the nucleus of a carbon atom is perfectly tuned to allow it to be formed in stars. Without this perfect tuning, the carbon (and heavier atoms), basic to all life, would be essentially non-existent.

**“Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge”**

**“Great are the works of the LORD; They are studied by all who delight in them.” Psalm 111:2**

**“It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.” Prov 25:2**

- The earth’s atmosphere protects us from damaging radiation, but allows a narrow band of light to pass, for life to exist and also for us to see through and study God’s universe.
  - o Think of the difference between Mars (no protection) and Venus (impenetrable cover)
- Total solar eclipses are enabled only by a moon, sized and spaced perfectly like ours is.
  - o Total eclipses let us learn about the nature of the sun’s surface and atmosphere. This, in turn, enabled study of other stars in the universe.
  - o Total eclipses let us measure gravity bending light, a proof of the theory of relativity.
- Our solar system is located in a spiral galaxy, between spiral arms and in the plane of the galaxy, in the perfect spot for life and for observation
  - o Near the galaxy center or in a spiral arm, life cannot survive
  - o Near the outer regions, there is not enough heavy elemental material
  - o Near the center or in an arm, we could not see much of our galaxy or outside it
- New field of study: Gravitational waves let us study black holes and other cool stuff

**“Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.”** Psalm 111:2

**“Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works in man's behalf!”** Psalm 66:5

**“How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all.”** Psalm 104:24

-The Bible leads us to expect evidence for its credibility from science, archaeology, and history:

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.” (Psalm 19:1)

“God's invisible qualities--His eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made” (Romans 1:20);

“it (Jesus life, death and resurrection) was not done in a corner” (Acts 26:26)

-God's creation is a witness to the whole world.

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.” Psalm 19:1-4

“Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of His great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.” Isaiah 40:26

“What may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--His eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.” Romans 1:19-20

“The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."” Psalm 14:1

-It should be no surprise to see God's supernatural foreknowledge in His creation.

“I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.” Isaiah 46:9-10.

-God is eternal, outside of the universe, not bound by time and space. No one created Him.

“Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.” Psalm 90:2

“God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM."” Exodus 3:14

“This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time” 2 Timothy 1:9

“eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time” Titus 1:2

“For a thousand years in Your sight are like a day that has just gone by.” Psalm 90:4.

“But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.” 2 Peter 3:8

“But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain You. How much less this temple I have built!” 1 Kings 8:27

“God is spirit, and His worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.” John 4:24

-God actively keeps the universe running. He did not just wind it up and let it go, but is actively involved. "All things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." Colossians 1:16,17

"Shout for joy, O heavens; rejoice, O earth; burst into song, O mountains! For the LORD comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones. But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me." "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me." Isaiah 49:13-16

-There are some things about the creation that we will never understand through science.

"To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One. Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and complain, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God"? Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and **His understanding no one can fathom.**" Isaiah 40:25-28

-The universe is not eternal. In fact it is wearing out (2<sup>nd</sup> law of thermodynamics).

"In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. But you remain the same, and your years will never end." Psalm 102:25-27

"All the stars of the heavens will be dissolved and the sky rolled up like a scroll; all the starry host will fall like withered leaves from the vine, like shriveled figs from the fig tree." Isaiah 34:4

"Lift up your eyes to the heavens, look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies. But my salvation will last forever, my righteousness will never fail." Isaiah 51:6

- God stretched out the heavens

"Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread out the earth and its offspring, Who gives breath to the people on it And spirit to those who walk in it," Isaiah 42:5

"It is I who made the earth, and created man upon it. I stretched out the heavens with My hands And I ordained all their host." Isaiah 45:12

-The universe is perfectly tuned to allow for our earth, sun, and the existence of life.

"For this is what the LORD says-- He who created the heavens, He is God; He who fashioned and made the earth, He founded it; He did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited-- He says: 'I am the LORD, and there is no other.'" Isaiah 45:18

-The unchanging "laws" of physics or nature are characteristic of God.

"Your word, O LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures. Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve you." Psalm 119:89-91