



Jesus said:

“Thy Word is TRUTH”

John 17:17b

“Science confirms the Bible”

~ Answers in Genesis ~

What is wrong with that statement?

If the Bible is TRUTH

**shouldn't we be measuring everything
Science says against the Bible?**

Proverbs 18:13

He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly
and shame unto him.

NOTICE:

Upon careful examination of this material, the recipient
henceforth cannot appeal to ignorance, if these truths
herein revealed are hereafter rejected.

1st Timothy 1:13

This isn't new ...

In fact, due to its lust to be relevant in this world, the professing church, over the last five centuries, has continued to re-interpret Scripture in order to maintain the appearance of harmony between science and the Scriptures, slowly abandoning the literal intent of the Holy Spirit inspired authors who penned it.

Science continues to challenge the professing church to the point that more and more Christian institutions are siding with science over the Scriptures. The number of Christian Universities that reject a literal six day creation is growing. Even worse, many now are rejecting the literal interpretation of the first eleven chapters of Genesis.

This booklet is going to prove that over the last five centuries, the professing church has completely abandoned the Biblical writers' understanding of cosmogony (the origins of all creation).

There are many implications that can't be avoided when considering the contradictions between science and God's Word. We can only reconcile these contradictions if we first acknowledge that the final answer to any question between the two must lie solely upon the authority of the written Word of God.

Once we've accepted that existential principle, then we have no where else to go than to examine science with very critically-minded suspicion.

Let me first make a distinction between legitimate science and Scientism. By their own admission, Scientism says they have no proof for 96% of all they claim to know of cosmogony, only theory.

For the sake of keeping this booklet as brief as possible, I cannot go into every angle of which Scientism has purposefully intended to remove God from His creation.

At the end of this publication, there will be references to statements made here as well as resources that will help enable you to do your own research.

Deception

Jesus said many times “be not deceived”. He says this in the context of end times prophecies, not yet fulfilled. The closer we get to His return, the greater degree of deception. Satan is working feverishly as he knows his time is short.

Nobody wants to be deceived, and by the very nature of deception, very few think they are or have ever been.

Back before the flood, Satan had great influence over the sons of Adam. Genesis chapter six describes the condition of man as being corrupted, full of violence. God put an end to that tyranny by destroying everyone with the exception of eight souls.

Satan hasn't given up and has been working on a plan for millennia, in order to gain back what he lost in the flood. He knew he couldn't present himself as he had back in Genesis six, so he needed to create a whole new back story, a whole new stage with new actors and costumes in order to pull off such a massive deception. A deception so grand, that it would cause the sons of Adam to welcome him back into their material existence once again.

Cosmology has taken many turns through the millennia and since I am trying to keep this brief, I won't go into detail here. All I will say is that the biggest turns in direction took place during the Grecian Empire and the sixteenth century AD. If this topic so motivates you, please do your own research.

The Mind Behind the System

Television, Hollywood movies, Universities, Public schools and social media all have something in common: They are all promoting a narrative with a mind behind it, and that mind is that of this world's Prince, Lucifer himself.

*"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork." **Psalm 19:1***

*"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." **Romans 1:20-21***

How important is it to have a right understanding of the heavens? Is it such an important issue? Should we not rather focus on Jesus, and bringing the Gospel to people, and not put such emphasis on "secondary issues"?

The above scriptures make it clear that the way God has chosen to declare His Glory to us, is by means of how He created the heavens. A warped understanding of the heavens will inevitably produce a warped understanding of God's glory, and who He is...

Is this not exactly why the whole world is overcome by the sordid state of mind we find explicitly described in Romans One?

Mankind's view, and comprehension of God is directly connected to their understanding and interpretation of the heavens. **God has ordained it to be so...**

Indoctrination

From our earliest days as kindergarteners, we are told

$$1 + 1 = 2$$

AND

The Earth is a Globe

Everywhere you look, that globe is seen, it just can't be avoided.

The globe is so engrained within us that it is as sure as

$$1 + 1 = 2$$

That narrative is never questioned and therefore it is beyond the shadow of any doubt. Any who would question that "REALITY" would be considered insane.

'Step away from the car' for a moment and try to allow yourself to be objective, if you can. This is an exercise that might be the most significant challenge you've ever faced.

In this booklet, we will be looking closer than most have ever dared, at the 2nd and 4th Days of Creation

The first section will confront articles that have been posted on the websites of:

Answers in Genesis & Creation Ministries International

These articles have been posted since 1999 and as far as I know, no one has disputed these corrupt efforts to diminish the historical account of creation, as God intended it to be understood by the hand of Moses.

This rebuttal has been posted on YouTube since February of 2019 and since its publishing date, no one within Christian academia has publicly disputed it.

Please go and read this article before proceeding

<https://answersingenesis.org/astronomy/cosmology/is-the-raqiya-firmament-a-solid-dome/>

<https://creation.com/is-the-raqiya-firmament-a-solid-dome>

Is the Raqiya' ('Firmament') a Solid Dome? | Answers in Genesis

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By ESO, via Wikimedia Commons

Answers Science Astronomy Cosmology Is the Raqiya' ('Firmament') a Solid Dome?

Is the *Raqiya'* ('Firmament') a Solid Dome?

Equivocal Language in the Cosmology of Genesis 1 and the Old Testament: a Response to Paul H. Seely

by James Patrick Holding on November 1, 1999

Is the raqiya' ('firmament') a solid dome? | CREATION.com

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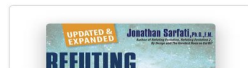
Is the *raqiā'* ('firmament') a solid dome?

Equivocal language in the cosmology of Genesis 1 and the Old Testament: a response to Paul H. Seely

by James Patrick Holding

Anti-Christian septs often denounce the Bible as teaching a faulty cosmology.

Helpful Resources



Before getting going on this, I need to make a few things clear:

Although this booklet may seem like an attack, my desire is to reveal the truth of God's Word regarding the Genesis account of creation, which is the foundation of our gospel. It is not my intention to offend. However, offense is just the product of hearing truth that is not only uncomfortable, but may arouse anger from those who have the most to lose, who try to force a false worldview into the text. I realize that this information jeopardizes not only the credibility of many in ministry but the very existence of these ministries.

I must speak pointedly to those in positions of authority and influence, who either intentionally or ignorantly are distorting the account God has revealed of creation.

MAINTAINING THE ILLUSION OF HARMONY

Mr. Holding's objective in writing this article IS NOT about

"... pulling out this tree of misinformation ..."

The objective is clearly stated in the 'Abstract' of his article:

"One can, however, justifiably understand Genesis to be in harmony with what we presently know about the nature of the heavens."

Mr. Holding and the professing Biblical creation sites posting and promoting these articles must, at all cost, continue to uphold this illusion of harmony between the Bible and this deceptive cosmology we were all born into.

There really isn't any harmony between the Bible's cosmology and what the world wants us to believe. Mr. Holding has said that Hebrew words such as 'raqia' are equivocal and lacking in detail. This is absolutely false and I am going to prove this by genuine 'exegesis' (drawing out), not by 'eisegesis' (reading into). Harmony can only exist if one reads into, distorts and explains away the intent of the inspired text.

“raqia”

This one single word is the make-or-break word that will either maintain this illusion of harmony or, if an honest, exhaustive effort is put forth, completely expose these efforts to show harmony when in fact there is none.

This booklet will, with absolute integrity of the written Word of God, prove that this word means exactly what Mr. Seely says it means, and more. We will prove this not just through a more exhaustive study of 'raqia' and other Hebrew words, but also considering other passages that testify so, as well as the context of what the penmen originally intended the reader to understand.

The Inerrancy of Scripture Must Absolutely be Maintained

Although I agree with Mr. Seely's interpretation of Scripture, that what the writers understood and penned about cosmology is that of a flat, enclosed earth, I do not agree with his conclusion that God allowed the writers erroneous understanding to be penned in holy writ, only to be exposed as erroneous in later generations by 'so-called' Science.

Mr. Seely is the perfect straw-man for Mr. Holding. He can seemingly stand on the ground of Biblical Inerrancy, while looking down on Mr. Seely, pointing his finger at him, accusing him of suggesting the Bible has errors, accusing him of giving aid to the enemies of Christ.

With berating words like that, the well is now poisoned

Mr. Holding's treatment of Mr. Seely is abusive and unchristlike.

Quoting Mr. Holding:

“... the description of the raqia’ is so equivocal and lacking in detail that one can only read a solid sky into the text by assuming that it is there in the first place.”

Context

The Firmament (raqia) must be understood in several ways. Not only in the literal meaning of the Hebrew word, but also within the context of the text in which it is being used.

We shall begin with the key passage, Genesis 1:6-8 which reads:

“And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And 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. And the evening and the morning were the second day.”

Please keep in mind that this passage is what God accomplished on the second day of creation. God had a purpose in what He did on that day.

The Purpose

At first glance it is easy to see that God had created some kind of divider to separate something from something else.

Thus, the Firmament (raqia) is that divider. The something being divided is clearly stated to be 'water'

Let me quote Mr. Holding where he tells the reader what he believes this water really is:

"By the same token, when Genesis speaks of 'waters' above the raqiya', we are hardly to suppose that it was a substance universally composed of two parts hydrogen, one part oxygen. Nor for that matter can we suppose the distribution of these 'waters' was uniform above the raqia', although we do not doubt that some ancient peoples, including the Hebrews, reached that conclusion of their own accord."

In his attempt to convince the reader that this substance was not really water, he begins his journey away from Biblical literalism by asserting that God did not turn all the waters in Egypt into literal blood during the first plague, before the Exodus.

“We have a descriptive indication that the waters of the Nile were turned to ‘blood’, but we need not automatically believe that it was ‘blood’ in the sense of having erythrocytes, platelets, plasma, etc.”

The Bible doesn't say that it was only the Nile that was turned to blood...

“... that they may become blood; and that there may be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood, and in vessels of stone.”

Exodus 7:19b

Notice that it wasn't just the river that was turned to blood, but the water stored in the wood and stone containers became blood as well.

Mr. Holding then goes on to say:

“The term ‘waters’ would serve in the minds of the pre-scientific just as ‘blood’ stood for whatever actual substance the Nile became.”

I wonder if the leadership of both Answers in Genesis and Creation.com would agree with his assertion that it wasn't 'REAL' blood ... ?

If the Bible says it was blood, then it was real blood. Keep in mind, the text doesn't say it was, “like blood” or “as blood”.

Mr. Holding's assertion that the waters above the Firmament was not real water is explained thus:

“Rather, it is our suggestion that these ‘waters’ were the originally-created, basic building blocks of matter that the Earth was made from ...”

Attempt to Dismantle God's Purpose

To this point, it looks like Mr. Holding is attempting to dismantle God's purpose for the second day of creation. This is the crux of the matter, for if the water is not real water, then it allows the reader to envision a divider that is not made of something solid, hard and strong, but to envision this false idea of air, atmosphere and infinite space.

On the other hand, if the water above the Firmament is real water, then the reader MUST envision the Firmament as something FIRM, solid, hard and strong.

As stated earlier, we are going to be looking at the context throughout Scripture of how the writers wanted the reader to understand what was written.

Before delving into the context of where the 'raqia' is used throughout the Bible, I'm going to define the word literally.

The 'raqia' comes from the root word 'raqa'.

Strong's give this word a reference number of #7554 and is best defined using the Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon (1906).

Displayed below from:

<https://biblehub.com/bdb/7554.htm>

◀ 7554. raqa ▶

Brown-Driver-Briggs

[רָקַע] **verb beat, stamp, beat out, spread out** (Late Hebrew *id.*; Hiph`il, Aramaic רָקַע Aph`el, both *spread out*, and derivatives; Syriac رَقَعَ *press down* (Luke 6:38 16), *spread out*, also *consolidate*; Arabic رَقَعَ *patch, put on a patch, repair*, compare Christian-Palestinian Aramaic ܪܩܥ *patch*, ܪܩܥܐ *swaddling-bands*, Schw^{Idioticon} 90; Phoenician מִרְקַע *platter, or bowl, of gold* CISⁱ 90, 1); —

As you can see, 'raqa' is a verb with the literal meaning of: Beat, Stamp, Beat out, Spread out as one would beat out a metal bowl with a hammer.



Now, let's look at 'raqia'

◀ 7549. raqia ▶

Brown-Driver-Briggs

רָקִיעַ **noun masculine** Genesis 1:6 **extended surface**, (solid) **expanse** (as if *beaten out*; compare Job 37:18); — absolute ר' Ezekiel 1:22 +, construct ר' Genesis 1:14 +; — ^m5 στερέωμα, ⁿ9 *firmamentum*, compare Syriac below √above; —

1 (flat) *expanse* (as if of ice, compare רָקִיעַ הַקָּרָר), as base, support (Wkl^{Alt}. Forsch. iv. 347) Ezekiel 1:22,23,25(gloss ? compare Co Toy), Ezekiel 1:26 (supporting I's throne). Hence (Co^{Ezekiel 1:22})

2 the vault of heaven, or 'firmament,' regarded by Hebrews as solid, and supporting 'waters' above it, Genesis 1:6,7 (3 t. in verse); Genesis 1:8 (called שָׁמַיִם; all P), Psalm 19:2 (שָׁמַיִם), זֶהָרָהּ Daniel 12:3; also ר' הַשָּׁמַיִם Genesis 1:14,15,17, הָשׁ עַל־מַיִר Genesis 1:20 (all P). *רָקִיעַ עֲזָזוּ Psalm 150:1 (suffix reference to I').

Equivocal Language? Lacking in Detail?

Just as the root verb 'raqa' speaks of a process to make or manufacture, by beating, stamping and spreading out, 'raqia' is the noun describing what was made.

An extended solid surface. An expanse that is as if beaten out to be a base or support. Described as the vault of heaven, regarded by the ancient Hebrews as solid, supporting the waters above.

Does that sound like it's lacking in detail?

Now, for a further understanding of what the ancient Hebrews understood the 'raqia' to be, let's look into the Greek word 'stereoma'

(Strong's G4733), used in the Septuagint.

For those who do not know what the Septuagint is, here is a brief description:

The term “Septuagint” means seventy in Latin, and the text is so named to the credit of these 70 scholars. Septuagint (sometimes abbreviated LXX) is the name given to the Greek translation of the Jewish Scriptures. The Septuagint has its origin in Alexandria, Egypt and was translated between 300-200 BC.

The Septuagint was also a source of the Old Testament for early Christians during the first few centuries AD. Many early Christians spoke and read Greek, thus they relied on the Septuagint translation for most of their understanding of the Old Testament. The New Testament writers also relied heavily on the Septuagint, as a majority of Old Testament quotes cited in the New Testament are quoted directly from the Septuagint (others are quoted from the Hebrew texts).

Quoted from: <https://www.septuagint.net/>

Identical Description

‘Stereoma’ is the Greek word the translators of the Septuagint used to translate the Hebrew word ‘raqia’. A noun with nearly the same description as ‘raqia’.

Only used once in the New Testament and translated
‘steadfastness’ in English (Col. 2:5)

◀ 4733. stereóma ▶

Strong's Concordance

stereóma: a solid body, a support, strength, firmness

Original Word: στερέωμα, ατος, τό

Part of Speech: Noun, Neuter

Transliteration: stereóma

Phonetic Spelling: (ster-eh'-o-mah)

Definition: a solid body, a support, strength, firmness

Usage: firmness, steadfastness, constancy.

Englishman's Concordance

Colossians 2:5 N-ANS

GRK: καὶ τὸ στερέωμα τῆς εἰς

NAS: your good discipline *and the stability*
of your faith

KJV: and *the stedfastness* of your

INT: and the *firmness* of the in

Strong's Greek 4733

1 Occurrence

στερέωμα — 1 Occ.

HELPS Word-studies

Cognate: 4733 *steréōma* (a noun) – literally, a support (foundation); (figuratively) strength (solidity), making one *immoveable* because *solid* (used only in Col 2:5). [See 4731](#) (*stereos*).

displayed above from: <https://biblehub.com/greek/4733.htm>

Josephus

Just in case you need further affirmation of this unequivocal detail, here's yet another testimony to consider:

The historical writings of Josephus are quoted daily from Church pulpits throughout the country as it helps Pastors and Teachers describe the cultural norms of the Jews in the first century AD.

In the section titled, "Antiquities of the Jews", Book 1 - "From Creation to the Death of Isaac", Josephus gives an account for the second day of creation:

"After this, on the second day, he placed the heaven over the whole world, and separated it from the other parts, and he determined it should stand by itself. He also placed a crystalline [firmament] round it, and put it together in a manner agreeable to the earth, and fitted it for giving moisture and rain, and for affording the advantage of dews."

Let Scripture interpret Scripture

The testimony of Josephus is consistent in its description of the Firmament as being 'crystalline'. Let us visit more Scripture which testifies the same and should be noted:

"And the likeness of the firmament upon the heads of the living creature was as the colour of the terrible crystal, stretched forth over their heads above."

Ezekiel 1:22

"Hast thou with him spread out the sky, which is strong, and as a molten looking glass?" **Job 37:18**

"The One who builds His upper chambers in the heavens. And has founded His vaulted dome over the earth ..." **Amos 9:6a (NASB)**

Thus far, we have established that 'raqia' DOES NOT describe air, sky, atmosphere or infinite space. Rather, it literally describes something solid, firm and strong. With the attempts by Mr. Holding to explain away the water above the Firmament, we must conclude that in order to support the waters above the Firmament, it would have to be solid, Firm and strong.

Let's take a look at other passages that testify of this:

In Genesis 7, we have the account of the flood of Noah. Read carefully these verses of that account and see if you see something sticking out where both agree with each other:

"... the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. And the rain was upon the earth ..."

Genesis 7:11b-12a

"The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained; "Genesis 8:2

Three sources of WATER

**The fountains of the great deep, the windows of heaven
and the rain upon the earth**

Some, like the late Henry Morris, taught that the water above the Firmament was a vapor canopy and that when the flood took place, God simply opened the 'windows of heaven' to flood the earth.

Answers in Genesis has backed away from promoting that theory in large part due to the Scriptural case that those waters are still present today.

**Below is an excerpt from an article posted by AIG's Bodie Hodge
on September 25, 2009**

Link to the full article:

<https://answersingenesis.org/environmental-science/the-collapse-of-the-canopy-model/>

Psalm 148:4

Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, And you waters above the heavens!

The psalmist wrote this in a post-Flood world in the context of other post-Flood aspects. So, it appears that the windows of heaven still exist at this point (see also [2 Kings 7:2, 19](#) and [Malachi 3:10](#)). And this is complemented by:

Genesis 8:2

*The fountains of the deep and the windows of heaven were also stopped,
and the rain from heaven was restrained.*

This verse merely points out that the two sources were stopped and restrained, not necessarily done away with. These two verses suggest that the windows of heaven remained after the Flood. The canopy model would have to explain when and how they suddenly dissipated, and without any basis for this in Scripture.

Water is there / Sky-Water

In light of all that we've discussed regarding 'water', we will find this next passage quite interesting:

*"He made darkness his secret place; his pavilion round about him were dark waters and thick clouds of the skies." **Psalms 18:11***

This passage is saying that God is surrounded by water
and **Genesis 1:2** testifies of the same:

"... And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters."

**Even before the first day of creation,
God's habitation is described with waters**

This may seem strange unless you've researched
the literal meaning of 'heaven'

Heavens (Shamayim)

Shamayim is known as a Hebrew dual word. There is no singular variant of the Hebrew shamayim

“shamayim” (ShMYM) is a contraction of two words: *“sham”* (ShM) plus *“mayim”* (MYM), meaning “water is there”. In other words, it is a term to explain the surface of the waters appearing in Genesis 1:2, and the under-surface in verse 1:8 that will be seen from the land below when it is revealed later on and renamed, ‘raqia’ (Firmament).

It is important to remember that actual “water” is the key component of “heavens”. “Heavens”, as used in the Pentateuch, is not a concept, nor another word for “atmosphere” nor a supernatural realm, but either represents the upper surface, the combination of the upper surface and the layer of darkness, or the upper *and* lower surfaces and the darkness or firmament that presses against them (In verse 1:2, the darkness presses against it, and in verse 1:8, it is the firmament).

Link to the full exposition: <http://hebrewmeanings.blogspot.com/2016/03/shamayim.html>

The Rabbit Hole Christian Academia Must Avoid

**If all of this is true, why have we not heard this from our seminary
trained Pastors and Teachers?**

The most obvious reason is that these graduates were students of Professors who were not taught this themselves.

This interpretation has always been there for those who choose to dig it out. Unfortunately, this has remained an unsought enigma due to the worldview we have all been born into.

This understanding of Biblical cosmology has been one of those rabbit holes no one within Christian academia is willing to go down, for obvious reasons.

Digging it out means you've got to look outside of the modern resources available and look into older but still respected resources such as the BDB lexicon. We might not ever have been able to search-out something like this if not for the internet.

One more passage where Mr. Holding misguides the reader

Many opponents of Biblical cosmology cite this verse as an example that Isaiah had a sphere (3D globe) in mind when he penned **40:22**, which reads:

“It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in”

I believe both Mr. Holding and Mr. Seely are missing the point:

Isaiah speaks of “the 2D circle of the **earth**”, not “the circle of the **raqiya**”.

In other words it literally means a 2D circle, or disc, like the flat 2D surface of the earth upon which the dome rests and forms a circular tabletop like circle. The **earth is a 2D circle/disc** under the dome. So God literally sits upon the firmament, which impresses a 2D circle upon the flat surface of the earth.

**This is completely consistent with the description given in the BDB lexicon for
'raqia' where it list this passage below:**

"And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it."

Ezekiel 1:26

God's throne sits upon the top of the dome 'raqia', looking down "... *and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers ...*"

**Now, passages like these below seem to take on an all together new
and more literal meaning ...**

*Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me?
saith the Lord: or what is the place of my rest? **Acts 7:49***

*But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: nor
by the earth; for it is his footstool ..." **Matthew 5:34,35a***

God's throne is so much closer than we could ever have imagined.

And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.

Revelation 4:6

*Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens; let thy glory be
above all the earth.*

Psalms 57:5

And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

Revelation 15:2

Mr. Seely also says, as I have said, that if the Prophet wanted to signify a sphere (3D), he would have used the Hebrew word (dur #1754), meaning “ball” as he did in

Isaiah 22:18

“He will surely violently turn and toss thee like a ball into a large country: there shalt thou die, and there the chariots of thy glory shall be the shame of thy lord's house.”

Mr. Holding Gloats:

“Seely attempts to confirm his own interpretation by making an error exactly like that of a skeptic I once confronted on this issue” [another straw-man]

“Dur, however, no-more indicates sphericity than the word used in Isaiah 40:22, for it is used by Isaiah elsewhere thus (Isaiah 29:3):”

“And I will camp against thee round about, and will lay siege against thee with a mount, and I will raise forts against thee.”

... more gloating

“Obviously, unless they were professional gymnasts as well as tacticians, the soldiers could not camp in the shape of a sphere around the city! Based on this, this word appears to be making a statement about a circular pattern rather than specifying a given shape.”

letting the air out ...

Again, all we need to do is look more closely at the Hebrew.

Below is the literal meaning of the Hebrew word Isaiah used for ‘circle’ in **40:22**

◀ 2329. chug ▶

Brown-Driver-Briggs

חוג **noun [masculine] vault**; — only of vault of the heavens חוג שמים
היִשָּׁב עַל־חוג הארץ Proverbs 8:27; בְּחִקּוֹ חוג על תהום פֶּנַּי Job 22:14; התהלך
Isaiah 40:22.

But wait, it gets better ...

Do you think 'dur' could have more than one meaning?

◀ 1754. dur ▶

Brown-Driver-Briggs

דֹּר **noun [masculine]** circle, ball —

1 *circle*: Du^{Isa 29:3} thinks noun here also is דֹּר (or כְּדֹר) = כִּידֹר *onset of combatants*; Marti כְּדֹר as ^{m5} Lo Brd and others; יְהִי־יָדֹר עֲלֶיךָ [Isaiah 29:3](#) (> ^{m5} Brd כְּדֹר).

2 *ball* דֹּר צִנְפָּה צִנְפָּה יִצְנָפְךָ צִנּוֹף [Isaiah 22:18](#) (so most; but Bö^{NÄ ii. 134} De Or Jastr^{PAOS 1888, xciv ff.} regard noun as כְּדֹר, *ball*, as Talmud, compare also MV SS under the word; see כֹּדֵר). [

3 *heap, pile* [Ezekiel 24:5](#) Thes Ke MV compare מְדֹרָה [Ezekiel 24:9](#); but see above below דֹּר

Mr. Holding should try to be more respectful towards Mr. Seely

‘Dur’ is defined in other ways including “all around” or “encircling you”
as the NASB translated it.

Notice however, those descriptions are secondary to “Circle” or “Ball, which are
the primary definitions for “dur”.

Thus, this statement below is absolutely false!

*“Dur, however, no-more indicates sphericity than the word used
in Isaiah 40:22 ...”*

**Summing it up, which of the two do you now think relates
more to sphericity (3D)?**

Bereans

“These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.” Acts 17:11

After hearing all of this, you should at least come away with some degree of being ‘vexed in spirit’, considering why we have never been trusted to consider this ourselves, a more literal interpretation of the account of creation.

If you are a Christian, then these two character traits should describe you:

One who is a critical, free thinker and

One who is willing to question everything.

After all, isn’t that how the Apostle Paul described the Bereans?

Now to the Fourth Day of Creation

“And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.”

Genesis 1:14-19

It's pretty clear from our in-depth look at the 2nd Day of Creation that the firmament, constructed on the second day is — and must be solid, hard, vaulted and strong.

Looking at this passage describing the creation of the Sun, Moon and Stars, it is clear, as indicated three times, that ALL of these lights were placed IN the firmament (dome). Verse 14 says, “Let there be lights IN the firmament”. Verse 15 says, “lights IN the firmament” and verse 17 says, “God set them IN the firmament of heaven to give light upon the Earth”.

There seem to be two very big conflicts here between what the Bible says and what we've been taught about cosmology. The first being, if the Earth is a sphere, and it rotates around the Sun, don't you think God would have made the Sun first since the Sun, as we are told, would be at the center of the solar system?

The second and most compelling dilemma is, if the Sun, Moon and Stars were placed IN the firmament, then the distance and the size of these two great lights must come into question, and remember that ALL of the Stars too were placed IN the dome. How do we reconcile the Bible's account with what we've been taught since our earliest days in grade school, as well as by most ALL Christian leaders? They all agree that the Moon is 237,000 miles away while the Sun is 93,000,000 miles away. They say that beyond our atmosphere, there is this ever expanding, ENDLESS space.

If everything we've discussed regarding the 2nd day is true, then can't you see the extreme conflict of worldviews here?

You might protest by asking, what about the moon landings, the ISS and all the NASA pictures and videos of the Earth from space?

Those are very good questions and we will delve into those at some point, but for now, we can't allow ourselves to get side-tracked until we are convinced of what the Scriptures teach us first and foremost.

So it looks like we need to question what we've been told regarding the distance these luminaries are from the Earth, and not only the distance but their size as well.

Let's look at another really big conflict between the Bible and what we are told.

We've been told that the Sun is stationary, that it does not move, but sits at the center of our solar system. We are taught that it is the Earth and 7-8 other planets that are supposedly revolving around this stationary Sun. There is so much Scripture that contradicts this and I just can't understand why Christians don't recognize this at all.

The Bible says over and over that the Sun moves, does circuits and was even commanded to stop in the sky and to reverse direction. I would like to go through some of these passages with you and see if you don't agree that collectively, what nearly everyone accepts as truth is very much in conflict with the Bible.

Let's first look at what is probably the most glaring contradiction between Scripture and modern astronomy. Please read with me the account of Israel's battle with the Amorites in Joshua 10.

Let's begin in verse 12:

"Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day. And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel."

Joshua 10:12, 14

Was Joshua, the writer of his own eyewitness account, mistaken with his own assertion that the Sun moves? The text clearly says, "... the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day."

One might argue,

But these are all just how people of the time talked, just as we say that the sun rises and sets. It's just how it looked to them.

I'm sure you and I agree that according to modern Astronomy, this would be impossible, and if it were to occur, the consequences for Earth's inhabitants would be devastating. Can you see how this account draws a line in the sand all by itself, without even looking at other passages in the Bible?

If we accept what modern Astrophysics tells us about the solar system, then we must reject what God is saying through Joshua.

Let's look at another passage:

2nd Kings 20, beginning in verse 8

“And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, what shall be the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the LORD the third day? And Isaiah said, this sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees? And Hezekiah answered, it is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees. And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.”

The writer, believed to be Jeremiah, writes from the basis that it is the Sun that moves. Even if it is thought that the Earth is what changed directions in its rotation, modern Astronomy would say this is impossible, and that if the Earth suddenly not only stopped rotating but began rotating in the opposite direction, the consequences of this would be disastrous to our existence. So when Joshua and Jeremiah wrote this, they were on the same page with their claims as to which celestial bodies were moving. Keep in mind; we are not depending on these men's knowledge of how God's creation works, but on God's own faithfulness to all generations, mutually confessing that God's Word is inerrant and all-sufficient.

I would like to quickly read other passages that were written collectively, with the very same convictions

“Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.”

Psalm 19:4-6

David expresses his awe of God's glory as seen in the heavens and of God's handiwork in all He has placed in the firmament, the Sun, Moon and Stars: “Their line is gone out through all the earth” describes a pre-established course of movement for all that is placed in the firmament. “In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.” Undoubtedly, again, the sun is described as “coming out” and “a strong man to run a race”.

Someone is going to say, this is probably poetic license, describing the heavenly bodies in human terms, and to answer, David totally understands the Sun as moving, having a prescribed purpose in that movement or circuit.

These are but a few that bear witness that the Sun does move. There are many others that further confirm collectively that the Sun was made to have a specific course or circuit prescribed by God Himself. I will reference more if that is alright with you:

“The sun and moon stood still in their habitation: at the light of thine arrows they went, and at the shining of thy glittering spear.”

Habakkuk 3:11

“The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.”

Genesis 19:23

“Which commandeth the sun, and it riseth not; and sealeth up the stars.”

Job 9:7

“So let all thine enemies perish, O LORD: but let them that love him be as the sun when he goeth forth in his might. And the land had rest forty years.”

Judges 5:31

“He appointed the moon for seasons: the sun knoweth his going down.”

Psalms 104:19

“The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he arose.”

Ecclesiastes 1:5

“Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.”

Isaiah 60:20

“From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD'S name is to be praised.”

Psalms 113:3

*“For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light:
the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause
her light to shine.”*

Isaiah 13:10

*“And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord GOD, that I will cause the
sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day.”*

Amos 8:9

*“That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh
his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just
and on the unjust.”*

Matthew 5:45

With all of this, can you argue from the Bible alone, using sound exegesis,
against what I am clearly understanding the Bible to say,
that the Sun does move?

Before proceeding into the Stars, please let me insert an important statement the Bible makes about the sixth and final day of creation.

In Genesis chapter 2 verse 1 it says:

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

Genesis 2:1

This verse is very clear and allows no room for the idea of an ever-expanding universe or the death and birth of stars. The creation was complete; the only things which multiplied since then are the living creatures, which God commanded to multiply and fill the earth.

Allow me to ask the reader a question: Do you believe that our sun is a star and the distant stars are suns?

You might answer that the observations of modern astrophysicists using the technology available today such as the Hubble telescope have witnessed these events taking place.

With all due respect I must then say that in believing such, you are in direct conflict with the Bible's account of creation. The Bible names three types of luminaries and permits no allowance for saying any two are of the same type.

The distinction between the three is clear throughout the Scriptures:

"And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also."

Genesis 1:16

"Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night ..."

Jeremiah 31:35a

"There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory."

1st Corinthians 14:41

“To him that made great lights: for his mercy endureth for ever: The sun to rule by day: for his mercy endureth for ever: The moon and stars to rule by night: for his mercy endureth for ever”

Psalm 136:7-9

“Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light.”

Psalm 148:3

“Which commandeth the sun, and it riseth not; and sealeth up the stars.”

Job 9:7

Here are some other passages that will bring this topic to a head.

Please turn to Matthew 24:29

“Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken.”

Now, please go to the book of Mark with me,

“And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.” **Mark 13:25**

Can there be any doubt that these two passages are speaking of the same event?

The Biblically ignorant will quickly say that Jesus is speaking metaphorically here. Please forgive me if this is the position you hold. I'm not trying to demean or show disrespect towards you in any way.

Now, let's look at another passage testifying to the exact same event

Revelation 6:12-13

“And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.”

Can you see the problem trying to say Jesus was speaking metaphorically?

It has to be literal. John, the Revelator is describing the event using metaphor himself.

“the sun became black as sackcloth of hair”

“the moon became as blood”

***“the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth
her untimely figs”***

If the stars were what we are officially told they are, and stars are really as enormous as NASA says, then this is impossible...how can millions of “beach balls” all fall onto one tiny marble?

All of the Scripture we’ve looked at so far about the firmament testify to the fact that the luminaries are local, much closer than we’ve been told.

This can’t be denied

Some of you may caution:

If this narrative became accepted by modern scholars, the effect would be horrendous. People, by the millions would throw their Bibles in the trash and say, “I guess it’s a fairy tale after all”

This is the whole point; we are to choose whom we believe; we cannot claim to be adherents to the Scriptures, whilst believing and supporting what NASA and God-denying scientists claim, can we? Either the Bible is a fairy tale, or NASA is a fairy tale; their respective claims are irreconcilably opposed to each other. Scientists and preachers, who straddle the fence trying to reconcile them, are either ignorant or dishonest, and are leading many astray.

Are you prepared to stand up for the Scriptures when millions throw their Bibles in the trash and say: “I guess it’s a fairy tale after all”?

Suffering and Martyrdom

After reading this, if you are still in denial that “Satan, which deceiveth the whole world” has succeeded in deceiving even the professing church, then I pray that God, by His Spirit, will open your eyes before it is too late. However, if you have been given eyes to see, please consider yet another TRUTH regarding that DAY which is quickly approaching.

Whatever your position regarding the times of the end, the Bible makes it very clear that we and our families are going to suffer, and may even face martyrdom.

Satan has been working on this grand illusion for literally, thousands of years, and I believe we are nearing the zenith of this “STRONG DELUSION” (an alien disclosure).

As the children of God, born from above, each of us are by nature, thorns in Satan’s side, thus his sights are on you and I, we are the ones he fears. He can’t take away what God has granted to us, but he can deceive us if we are not diligent to know the mind of the Lord.

To be an overcomer means continually living for, and ever seeking the will of the Lord, pleasing in His sight.

*“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.” **Revelation 12:11***

We can't allow ourselves to become lazy. Each of us must continue always in the Word, praying without ceasing. There is going to be a tremendous dividing taking place during the short time that is left. The wheat from the tares, the TRUE Church from the false, professing church. The Bible makes it clear that this dividing will take place during the tribulation that is coming.

We will all be tried, as with fire (1 Peter 1:3-9).

These are the “Beginning of Sorrows”

Matthew 24:8

SEEK HIM WHILE HE MAY BE FOUND

Isaiah 55:6; 2nd Peter 3:14-15

“96% Stupid” - Neil deGrasse Tyson on Dark Matter and Dark Energy

https://youtu.be/5j2_9BDMM3w

Why You Should Not Trust Today's Cosmology Michio Kaku

https://youtu.be/olo_z6yZjbg

RC Sproul: “Thank you scientists, for correcting our misunderstanding”

<https://youtu.be/i5663nMypPo?t=120>

The Compendium Chronicles

<https://youtu.be/AaCnS18amVs>

To research these things more thoroughly, many great resources can be found at the YouTube or GabTV channels below:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/DaveyTut> <https://tv.gab.com/channel/daveytut>

Website: <https://thelastdays.net> Email: DaveyT@thelastdays.net

TheLastDays.net — P.O. Box 624, Caldwell, Idaho 83606

