

# The BIBLE – True Science or Superstition?

**What is the Bible? Does it contain evidence of Divine Inspiration? Or is it merely a relic of ancient mythology? Is the Bible really relevant to our modern Technological and Computer Age? Or is it just a hoary old collection of ancient legends, myths, and folklore? Here is the most amazing documentary PROOF the Bible is far more than what its critics claim! -- a Book ages ahead of its time! Here is astounding evidence of the most incredible scientific kind showing that the Bible is indeed a Book of Divine Inspiration!**

William F. Dankenbring

For many centuries agnostics, skeptics and scoffers have called the Bible a collection of ancient primitive myths, fables, stories, and superstition. One religious leader calmly claimed, “We know now that every idea in the Bible started from primitive and childlike origins . . . .”

Even Dr. Edgar J. Goodspeed, who translated the Bible into English, declared that the book of Joshua “is the legendary story of the conquest of Canaan” and claimed that the book of Ruth “belongs to Israel’s fiction, rather than to its history, and should be among its tales and stories.”

Why so much disrespect for the Bible? Why have so-many men of high education, scholars, and scientists and even ministers REJECTED the Bible as reliable historical truth? Is the Bible full of error and representative of an “unscientific” age and time?

Or is there real evidence that it is and must be DIVINELY inspired?

## *Science Versus Myth*

We live in a world where “science” is adulated, placed on a lofty pedestal, and virtually worshipped as the new “god” or “messiah” -- the new savior of the world. Truly many advances in scientific and technological understanding have bequeathed fascinating new “toys” and “labor saving” devices to mankind.

However, science has also bequeathed to the world incredible modern weapons of mass destruction – biological, chemical and nuclear weapons that could extinguish all life on Planet Earth!

Science has been described as an angel of mercy, and also as a devil of destruction.

But unknown to millions, the Bible has a great deal to say about TRUE science. And it also has much to say about the wrong kind of science, and “science falsely so called.” Although the Bible is not a textbook about science, it does give many *foundational principles* of science -- alludes to basic principles of biology, physics, chemistry, meteorology, astronomy, geology, and oceanography, as well as medical science and health sciences! It also contains *incredible internal PROOF that it is far more than just an ancient collection of “human” stories!*

Those who have lightly discarded the Bible and relegated it to the limbo of outer darkness, as myth and fable, have carelessly missed out on the solid foundation of science that is demonstrated in the Bible itself. They have jumped to conclusions without getting all the facts.

The actual fact is, most of the world’s scholars and scientists have rejected the Bible as the provable Word of the living God -- without even having examined all the evidence! They just ASSUME it must be faulty, full of error, and superstition. But what is the truth?

Very few know it, but the Bible has far more to say about science than many suppose. Scientific facts, not understood by the world until the last few hundred years, with the advent of the “scientific explosion,” are plainly and directly *mentioned IN THE BIBLE!*

Think what this means. While pagans worshipped sticks and stones, the sun, moon, and stars; while entire nations were bowing under a cloud of magic and superstition, ignorant of the truth -- at that very same time, a Book unknown to millions, the Bible -- the Book of books -- was being **INSPIRED** which contained many fascinating, fantastic **SCIENTIFIC SECRETS** totally unknown to the rest of the world!

Notice how amazingly *scientific* the Bible really is!

### ***Flat Earth Theory***

Many people have erroneously believed that the Bible teaches the earth is flat. The Medieval Catholic Church held to the notion the earth is *flat* and is the center of the universe.

When Galileo presented scientific evidence to the contrary, his facts and theories were branded as “absurd in philosophy, and formally heretical, because expressly contrary to Holy Scripture.” But nowhere does the Bible teach the flat earth theory, or that the earth is a stationary object at the center of the universe.

Galileo’s theories were declared heretical in the 17th century. But, amazingly enough, six hundred years before Christ, the prophet Isaiah was inspired by Almighty God to write and speak of the spherical shape of the planet earth!

Notice it! In Isaiah 40:22 we read of God, “It is He that sitteth upon the **CIRCLE** of the earth.” Moffatt translates this verse more clearly: “He sits over the **ROUND EARTH.**” The *Critical and Experimental Commentary* states this expression is “applicable to the *globular form* of the earth.” The original Hebrew word is *chuug* and means a “compass, circle, or *sphere.*”

But how did Isaiah, an ancient Hebrew prophet, know that the earth is round? Here is PROOF that the *ancient* Hebrews were far more knowledgeable and scientific than they are given credit for being!

### *The Amazing Earth*

How much did the ancient writers of the Bible really know about the earth? Did they believe the notions of their Gentile contemporaries who believed the earth was carried about on the back of a great tortoise?

There are amazing truths that were known about the earth, indicated in the Scriptures, which the rest of the world did not understand for another *two or three* THOUSAND YEARS! Sound incredible? It should!

The fact that the earth revolves around the sun once every year was not generally understood until the days of Copernicus and came to be known as the Copernican Theory. This was in the 16th century -- just a little more than 400 years ago. He taught that the sun is the center of the solar system.

However, thousands of years before his time -- in the days of the patriarch Moses -- the Bible uses the precise expression to indicate the revolution of the earth around the sun once a year was *known* to ancient Biblical astronomers! In Exodus 34:22 we read, in the King James Version, the innocent phrase, "And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest. and the feast of ingathering at the *year's end*." According to the original Hebrew, however, this should be translated "at the REVOLUTION OF THE YEAR." The original Hebrew word is *tequuphah* and means "to move in a circle," "circuit," "to go round," "orbit of the sun," as well as "revolution of time."

The Goodspeed translation has "at the *turn* of the year." In the days of the prophet Samuel, the expression "*in revolution* of days" was used to denote the time from conception to birth of a child (I Sam. 1:20, margin). Goodspeed translates this, "when the time *came around*."

Notice also II Chronicles 24:23 where the "end of the year" is called, in the original Hebrew, "in the REVOLUTION *of the year*" (marginal rendering).

These verses clearly suggest the fact that the ancient Hebrews KNEW the earth revolves around the sun, and completes one *revolution* -- one turning -- each year?

But this is not all. Notice Job 38:12-14 where we read: "Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days; and caused the dayspring to know his place; that it might take hold of the *ends of the earth* . . . IT [the earth] IS TURNED AS CLAY TO THE SEAL . . ."

What does this mean? God is talking to the ancient patriarch Job about the morning -- the rising of the sun. How is it that the sun appears to rise in the morning? This verse contains the scientific truth -- the TRUE explanation! The earth *itself turns*, or "rotates" - from west to

east, causing the sun to rise in the morning, in the eastern sky, and appear to move through the sky to the western horizon, where it appears to “set.”

The original Hebrew in this verse says, of the earth, “*it turns itself.*” What could be a more apt expression? The allusion to the day and the *seal* refers to the *rolling cylinder seal* one to three inches long, such as was used in ancient Babylon, which left its plastic impression on the clay *as it turned about* or rolled around. What more apt figure of speech could be used to represent the motion of the earth itself, as it rotates, causing day and night?

Another amazing discovery of science -- the laws of gravity -- were not explained and understood until Sir Isaac Newton, a Christian scientist and theologian, discovered them in the 18th century. The laws of *motion were* discovered by this same genius.

However, strange as it may seem, thousands of years ago the Bible alluded to the laws of centrifugal force, centripetal force, gravity, and motion! We read in the book of Job, speaking of the earth – “He [God] . . . *hangeth the earth UPON NOTHING*” (Job 26:7.)

The ancient pagans believed a tortoise carried the earth about; but God revealed to His people the truth -- that the earth hangs suspended in space by powerful laws of force and motion!

God asked Job, “Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?” “Whereupon are the foundations [sockets] thereof fastened (made to sink)?” (Job 38:4, 6.)

It is interesting that science has discovered that the earth’s axis is pointed in the general direction of the North Pole Star, and the north and south poles are the points where the earth’s axis of rotation meets the surface of the earth. The earth is inclined to its axis at 23 1/2 degrees. *God* is the One who planned it all out, and tilted the earth to create the seasons of the year; He set the earth to spinning on its axis; and pointed the north pole toward the star Polaris.

### *Science of Meteorology*

The science of weather and understanding the earth’s atmosphere is of relatively recent origin. It, too, has developed greatly during the last two hundred years. Chemistry and physics play a vital role in this science. Before the nature of matter and air were understood, weather science was in total chaos.

Here again, however, the Bible “scooped” science by more than two thousand years!

The basic key to understanding the weather cycles and patterns on the earth is the hydrological cycle. Water evaporates from the surface of the oceans, rivers, lakes and all bodies of water; that it rises into the atmosphere; and that later it returns to the earth as rain, snow, sleet, or hail. The evaporation-condensation-precipitation cycle was not understood by mankind, however, before the nature of water, water vapor, and the chemistry of matter was understood.

The Bible, however, reveals this basic CYCLE was understood thousands of years ago! Once again, the Bible is proved to be amazingly SCIENTIFIC when it speaks of the natural

world around us!

Notice Jeremiah 10:13 – Jeremiah declares, “When he uttereth his voice, there is a multitude of *waters* in the heavens, and he causeth the vapours to ASCEND from the ends of the earth.”

Clearly, Jeremiah, a prophet of God, *knew* about the evaporation of water into water vapor, condensation of water vapor as rain droplets, and the precipitation cycle?

Jeremiah was not the only Biblical “meteorologist,” however. Solomon was an expert in understanding the weather cycle. The Scriptures reveal that king Solomon was an avid student of nature, and the natural world, and wrote extensively on the subject. Some of his writings as a “naturalist” are preserved in the Scriptures. Solomon wrote about one thousand years before Christ, “The wind goes to the south, and circles about continually, and on its circlings the wind returns again. All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea is not full; unto the place from which the rivers come, to there and from there they return again” (Eccl. 1:6-7, *Amplified Version*).

Solomon understood the circuits of the wind and of water. If we give Benjamin Franklin credit for being a gifted genius, how much more should we recognize the genius of Solomon who was the most famous naturalist, writer, poet, composer, and scientist of his time? (see I Kings 4:29-34.) Solomon was familiar with the wind cycles and water cycles.

Consider, for a moment, how incredibly amazing Solomon's knowledge was. It was not until the 1800s that William Ferrell, an American meteorologist, formulated “Ferrell’s law” which explains the prevailing directions of the winds over the earth, based on the earth’s rotation.

Said Matthew Fontaine Maury, an American hydrographer who lived in the late 1800s, “The direction in which a wind blows is so constantly changing that we often speak of the winds as fickle, inconstant, and uncertain. *There is, however, ORDER in the movements of the atmosphere.* The fickle winds are obedient to LAWS.”

### *The Sea Around Us*

In Job 38:16, God asked, “Have you explored the *springs of the sea*? Or have you walked in the *recesses* of the deep?” (Amplified Version).

Apparently the writer of the book of Job had knowledge that beneath the oceans of the world there exist *springs, or fountains of FRESH WATER!* An article in the *Saturday Review* (July 1, 1967) declared: “Although they usually remain undetected, submarine springs of fresh water are often more common along certain types of shoreline than are rivers and other surface streams.” Along some shorelines, as much as 20 million gallons of fresh water a day flows into the sea for every mile of shoreline.

One major submarine spring in the Persian Gulf flows with enough volume to create a large area of fresh water in the midst of the sea, because of favorable limestone geology in Iran

and Saudi Arabia. In Greece, an estimated 100 million cubic feet of fresh water goes into the sea through submarine springs. But about *four thousand years before*, God asked Job if he knew about the “springs” in the sea!

Job was also told about the “recesses of the deep.” Oceanographers today have plotted much of the ocean bottoms of the world, and have discovered deep underlying “trenches” which at some points go down thousands of feet in sharp, sudden drop-offs. Yet even Job knew of the existence of “recesses” in the oceans! The Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean is 36,198 feet deep. It was discovered in September, 1959 by the Soviet ship *Vityaz*. The same ship discovered a depth of 35,702 feet for the Tonga Trench; there are four other deep trenches in the North Pacific. The greatest depth in the Atlantic Ocean is north of Puerto Rico -- the Puerto Rico Trench, 27,498 feet deep.

The dark world of the bottom of the ocean is now being explored by scientists in specially designed submersibles with powerful cameras, mounted with strobe lights, have been lowered miles into the depths. Oceanographers have discovered that the ocean bottom is surprisingly rugged. Depths of valleys and canyons running underwater when averaged out are five times greater than heights reached on continents. The undersea world is cut, and sliced, by huge canyons bigger than the Grand Canyon. One such canyon is the Hudson Canyon off New York. Sixty miles off shore, this mammoth canyon knifes downward to 8000 feet, and then slopes on down another 6,500 feet.

The sea floor is called the abyssal plains. At their edge are sometimes found tremendous chasms or trenches, averaging 20 miles wide at the top and hundreds of miles long. The deepest such trench discovered is the Challenger Deep in the Marianas Trench, almost seven miles down.

Yet thousands of year ago, God asked the patriarch Job what he knew about these “recesses” or “TRENCHES” of the “deep” -- that is, of the Oceans? *How could Job have known?* In the original Hebrew, the word for “explore” or “search out” is *cheger* and means to “search out, examine; secret, inmost part.” The word for “deep” is *tehown* and means “confusion” -- or “the *ABYSS, the great deep.*”

These graphic words perfectly describe the ocean bottom! Yet these words were written many thousands of years ago – long before the modern age which has plumbed the ocean’s depths! How did Job know these things? How did the writers of the Bible know? Was their knowledge the gift of God? Were they inspired by God?

### *"Paths of the Seas"*

Matthew Fontaine Maury, when reading the Bible, was, struck by the words of Psalm 8:8 – “The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through *the paths of the seas.*” His curiosity aroused, he set out to map the currents of the oceans of the world and became the foremost hydrographer of his day (1806-1873). He discovered the ocean routes which would make best use of prevailing ocean currents and winds. His research enabled ship owners to cut many days from the time required to make their voyages and helped them save many thousands of dollars. He was called the “Pathfinder of the Seas.” *The Bible* was his source

of inspiration!

But how did king David, who wrote the eighth Psalm -- who lived about one thousand years before Christ -- know about the “paths of the seas” and the great currents in the oceans?

Could it be this knowledge was much more general and widespread in ancient times than modern scientists like to think? There is archaeological evidence, in fact, that the fleets of Solomon and Hiram of Tyre *circumnavigated the globe*, sailing from Ezion-geber, a port at the terminus of the Red Sea, near modern Aqaba or Eliat! Hebrew customs, discovered by the early English settlers in the Americas, were found among some of the Indian tribes, including the wearing of phylacteries! Minoan and Phoenician coins have been found, and inscriptions of ancient Phoenician and Minoan scripts, in Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, and the Star of David was even found in an ancient ruin of the Pueblo Indians in New Mexico!

### *The Gulf Stream*

In 1855 Matthew Fontaine Maury, pioneer oceanographer, wrote, “There is a river in the ocean. In the severest droughts it never fails, and in the mightiest floods it never overflows. Its banks and its bottom are of cold water, while its current is of warm. The Gulf of Mexico is its fountain, and its mouth is in the Arctic Seas. It is the Gulf Stream” (*The Physical Geography Of the Sea*, 1855).

Truly, a river in the middle of the sea, the Gulf Stream flows for the most part through the Caribbean into the Gulf of Mexico and leaves through the Straits of Florida, from where it flows out into the broad Atlantic across to northwestern Europe.

“Seaward of New England, where the Gulf Stream is most robust, it can be 100 miles wide and 16,400 feet deep, and have a surface velocity of six miles an hour. There it carries past a given point about 150,000,000 tons of water every second; this makes it the equal of 700 Amazons or 8,800 Mississippis” (“A Capsule History of the Gulf Stream,” by Thomas Lineaweaver III, *Holiday*, Nov. 1967).

If the Gulf Stream were emptied upon the United States, it would flood the entire nation to a depth of over four feet -- in just one day! This mighty river is truly a PATHWAY in the sea! The larvae of a snail (*Cymatium Parthenopeum*) found from Brazil to the west coast of Africa ride the Gulf Stream, perhaps taking 300 days to cover 2,640 miles from the Bahamas to the Azores. Although the “odds” against a successful passage for the snails may be 2 million to 1, it is commonly done!

The Gulf Stream is just one of many mighty ocean currents. Another is the cold Humboldt Current, pushed by Antarctic winds up the west coast of South America. Then there is the Japan Current, or Kuroshio, in the Pacific. The earth’s great wind systems push before them the great sea currents, and have enormous impact on world weather. The westerlies drive the Gulf Stream and Japan Current; the polar easterlies drive before them the Humboldt Current and Brazil Current, and others. The Labrador Current, in the North Atlantic, flows down from the north polar region, pushed along by polar easterlies.

All these mighty currents are virtual *rivers or paths in the seas*. But king David, one thousand years before Christ, *knew* such mighty paths in the seas existed! How did he know? Was navigation of the seas was far more advanced in his day than skeptics like to admit?

David also wrote of the “fowl of the air . . . and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.” What do migratory birds have to do with the great ocean currents? Is there a relationship? Indeed, there certainly is!

Winging their way over the seas, in giant paths through the skies, are the Golden Plover and the Arctic Tern, navigating many thousands of miles every year. Also navigating in paths through the seas are species of eel, turtles, whales, and many species of fish.

How did David understand these things about the fowls of the air, and the “fish of the sea” and other migratory creatures? How was he so familiar with the biological sciences of the earth?

### ***Knowledge About Air Pressure***

You are probably familiar with the fact that air has weight. At sea level air pressure is 14.7 pounds per square inch. As you go up in altitude, air pressure is less and less. A mountain climber ascending Mount Everest finds the air so thin that he has to take oxygen along to breathe.

When did science discover that air has weight? Any textbook on Physics reveals that the laws of pressure, temperature and volume of gases were supposedly not discovered until the last few hundred years. It was not known in ancient times, supposedly, that invisible air actually has “weight.”

Nor was it understood that rain behaves according to definite laws of physics and chemistry. But notice! Here is what God inspired to be written in the Bible *over three thousand years ago!* “God . . . looks to the ends of the earth; beneath the whole heavens he sees. When he *made a WEIGHT FOR THE WIND*, and meted out the waters by measure [rainfall in the United States averages 29 inches every year!]; when he made a *LAW* for the rain, and a *WAY* for the thunderbolt” (Job 28:23-26).

The *Amplified Bible* makes this even more clear: “When He gave to the wind *weight or pressure . . .*”

Here is another remarkable instance of **SCIENCE** in the Bible! *Thousands of years before modern science discovered these same laws of nature and physics!*

Apparently, ancient Job knew about the relationship between barometric pressure of the atmosphere and weather some 3,000 years ago! Torricelli, an Italian physicist (1608-1647) proved the same relationship with his barometer, about 350 years ago.

### *The Great Pyramid*

In his book, *A History of Egyptian Archeology*, Fred Gladstone Bratton states, “Of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Giza Pyramids alone have survived the ravages of time and the destructive hand of man. *They are still the most massive and impressive buildings in the world today.*”

He goes on: “As with astronomical measurements where the scientist has to resort to comparisons in order to demonstrate the immensity of the universe, so it is with the Pyramid of Cheops. No other building in history has called for so much study of construction, dimensions, and purpose than this pile of thirty million cubit feet of limestone. It has been estimated that the Great Pyramid . . . is large enough to accommodate St. Paul’s Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, St. Peter’s in Rome, and the Cathedrals of Milan and Florence. It consists of 2,300,000 limestone blocks, each one weighing 2 1/2 tons and measuring 3 feet in each direction. Originally it was 481 feet high but now is 451 feet. The average length of the four base lines is 755 feet” (p. 87.)

This author continues, “By using one of the celestial bodies, the Cheops builders were able to orient the Pyramid to the four cardinal points, the errors being only in the following fractions of one degree: north side, 2’ 28” south of west; south side, 1’ 57” south of west; east side, 5’ 30” west of north; west side, 2’ 30” west of north. The four corners were almost perfect right angles with the following measurements: 90 degrees 3’ 2”; northwest 90 degrees 59’ 58”; southeast, 89 degrees 56’ 37”; and southwest, 90 degrees 0’ 33” ” (p. 88).

Archaeologist Flinders Petrie calculated that 100,000 men were used in transporting the blocks to the base of the Pyramid, and some 4,000 in its actual construction. The precision is such that Petrie said any errors in the angles and degrees “can be covered with one’s thumb.”

In his book *The Pyramids*, Almed Fakhry declares: “The Great Pyramid of Giza represents the culminative effort of the pyramid builders. Not only is it the largest monument of its kind ever constructed, but for excellence of workmanship, accuracy of planning, and beauty of proportion, it remains the chief of the Seven Wonders of the World” (p.99).

It has been calculated that if all the stone in the Great Pyramid were sawn into one foot square blocks and these were laid end to end, they would stretch two thirds of the way around the earth at the equator, or 16,000 miles. Put another way, these one foot blocks could make a five-foot highway stretching from the east to the west coast of the United States!

AlmedFakhry says of the Great Pyramid, “Even equipped with modern tools and instruments, and profiting from nearly 5,000 years of experience, architects and engineers today might well quail if called upon to erect a duplicate” (p.120-121).

But the Great Pyramid is only one of the ancient wonders of the world. The Temple of God, in Jerusalem, was another such wonder of architectural skill and engineering! It was the greatest building of its kind in the entire world.

### *The Temple of Solomon*

David and Solomon, who were instrumental in the construction of the Temple of God in ancient times, were very knowledgeable in the fields of architecture and engineering. The Temple was to be “of great magnificence and fame and splendor in the sight of all the nations” (I Chron. 22:5, NIV).

David himself prepared for the Temple 100,000 talents of gold and one million talents of silver. On today's market gold is valued at approximately \$400 per ounce. A talent equaled 125 pounds, troy weight. Therefore, 100,000 talents equals 12,500,000 pounds. There are 16 ounces in a pound, so David collected 200,000,000 ounces of gold for the Temple. At a price of \$400 dollars per ounce (which gold will be soon!), this means David gathered \$80 TRILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF GOLD FOR THE TEMPLE! -- – *a sum equal to the total Gross Domestic Product of the United States of America for over ten cumulative years!*

Therefore, David provided about \$80 *trillion* worth of gold for the Temple of God. The silver he contributed was one million talents. Silver is approximately \$5 per ounce. At this rate, therefore, the silver David gave for the Temple was worth an astounding \$ONE TRILLION dollars!

Can you imagine such wealth? The ancient Temple of Solomon was truly the most magnificent, glorious, beautiful building ever constructed by man! (see I Chron.22:14). The Temple was built of great stones, cedar beams and boards, overlaid within with gold (I Kings 6:14-22; 7:9-12).

To construct such a magnificent edifice, Solomon had 30,000 men of Israel and 150,000 Canaanites working on the Temple, hewing timber and magnificent stones, and bearing burdens (I Kings 5:13-16; II Chron. 2:17-18; 8:7-9). Actual construction took *seven years* (I Kings 6:38). If Solomon had paid all these men at today's wages, Solomon's labor costs alone for seven years could easily have soared to the \$32,500,000,000 (\$32 1/2 billion) for the entire project! The actual wages paid out, of course, we do not know.

The construction of the Temple was so precise that the Bible records: “In building the temple, only blocks dressed at the quarry were used, and no hammer, chisel or any other iron tool was heard at the temple site while it was being built” (I Kings 6:7). Every part was carefully and precisely prepared at some distance from the building site. But when each part, each timber and stone, was laid, *it fit perfectly!* Can you imagine what a gargantuan *headache* such a building would give contractors today?

Obviously, men like David and Solomon were not mere “ignorant shepherds,” as some critics and skeptics today would like to believe. Nor are they mere figments of the imagination. They existed! And they ruled mighty kingdoms. Far from being ignorant shepherds, David and Solomon were immensely rich **KINGS** of the greatest historical empire the world has ever known. The net worth of either of them was far more than the wealthiest nation on the earth, today!

In the heyday of Solomon, we read, “silver was considered of little value” (II Chron.9:20). “The king made silver as common in Jerusalem as stones” (verse 27). “The king had a fleet of trading ships manned by Hiram’s men” (v.21). “King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth” (verse 22).

### *Way for the Thunderbolt*

In Job 28:26 we read, “When he (God) made a decree for the rain, and a *way for the lightning of the thunder.*”

Lightning kills more people yearly than any other natural disaster -- about 400 fatalities per annum. It destroys \$37 million worth of property annually, plus the losses due to 8,000 annual forest fires started by lightning.

How are lightning bolts formed? The story is fascinating. Inside enormous thunderclouds are so-called “chimney currents” -- a column of air rising upward with gale force. Within this turbulence near the top small hailstones become positively charged, while raindrops in the lower portion are charged negatively. Below on the earth there is another positive charge buildup, following the drifting cloud. Tremendous differences of electric potential are created between the top and bottom of the thundercloud, and the earth’s surface.

At this point, a gaseous arc reaches down from the cloud for perhaps fifty feet. hanging there, building up, growing. Meanwhile, positive particles on the earth below streak upward as high as fifty feet, called “St. Elmo’s fire.” When one of these earth “streamers” meets one of the cloud’s dangling gaseous arcs, called “leaders,” suddenly *A PATH IS FORMED BETWEEN THE THUNDERCLOUD AND THE EARTH!* This is “*the way of the lightning*” described in the Bible!

This is where the darting, flickering BOLT OF LIGHTNING hurtles through the air, starting at the point of contact between negative and positive charges of electricity, ripping up to the cloud along the gaseous arc path already formed. The lightning actually travels *upward*, and the fact that it *appears* to travel downward is an optical illusion.

But this is beside the point. The point of this story is -- HOW DID JOB KNOW? *How, could he* have ever known that there is “A WAY for the lightning of the thunder,” if he was just a simple “farmer” or “sheep-herder” who lived during an age of ignorance and superstition?

Science did not discover the secret of this phenomenon until very recent times. But God Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, discussed the “path” or “way” of the lightning with Job, over 3,500 years ago!

### *Secrets of Geology*

What about the earth science of geology? Does the Bible have anything to say about it? It certainly does!

Again, the book of Job contains the answers. We read of the process of *erosion* in Job 14:19 – “as water wears away stones.”

Notice, also, Job 28:10 – “He carves out channels through rock” (Tanakh). There is no canyon on the earth as majestic and awesome as the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. Geologists point out that this enormous canyon was formed by cutting action of the Colorado River, gouging out a pathway through the rock.

The natural world is full of lessons for us to learn. The Word of God actually commands us, “But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds of the air, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish of the sea inform you. Which of these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this?” (Job 12:7-9).

Yes, GOD is the Creator of the Universe!

*GOD* is the Creator! This is the supreme lesson and teaching of ALL true science, and the science of the Bible! Truly, as King David wrote in the Psalms, “The *FOOL hath said in his heart, There is no God*” (Psalm 14:1). And the Bible stands as a mighty WITNESS to the inspiration of that Great GOD!

### ***Ancient BIBLE Health Secrets***

Another PROOF of Biblical inspiration are ancient health keys revealed in the Bible which show the way to avoid many illnesses and disease. Biblical health laws show how to avoid epidemics, contagious diseases and plagues, venereal diseases, mental illness, and a host of the ills man falls prey to every year -- including such diseases as heart disease, cancer, and the “diseases of civilization.”

Other ancient nations, not understanding these Biblical health principles, were not so fortunate. Although many ancient peoples believed that good health was one of the greatest of gifts, and the Greeks prized vigorous health highly, disease was rampant among them. Its treatment concerned physicians from the earliest dynasties in Egypt, physicians in Greece, and medical practitioners in India and China. The modern world now knows about many of these health secrets, but refuses to follow them, violating God’s health laws with impunity and suffering an avalanche of horrible diseases as a result.

But the fact is, the ancient nations experienced many, if not all, of the same diseases that now plague humanity. Examination of neolithic bones in Denmark and Norway have shown that arthritic diseases were among the most crippling afflictions then as now. Neanderthal man suffered from arthritis. Malignant tumors of the bone have been found in Egyptian mummies, in human remains of France, North America and Peru.

X-ray photographs of mummies, paintings and sculptures have revealed that Pharaoh Siptah of the Nineteenth Egyptian dynasty and some of his subjects suffered from poliomyelitis. Pharaoh Merneptah suffered from arteriosclerosis of the aorta. Hardened arteries occurred in other Egyptians from the Eighteenth to the Twenty-seventh Dynasty.

Professor Rene Dubos in his book *Mirage of Health*, says: “In fact, the list of diseases found in mummies reads almost like the catalog of a pathological museum and includes siticosis, pneumonia, pleurisy, kidney stones, sinusitis, gallstones, cirrhosis of the liver, mastoiditis, appendicitis, meningitis, smallpox, leprosy, malaria, tuberculosis, congenital atrophy of the liver.”

Why did the ancients suffer from the same disease that plague us, today? The answer is relatively simple. They made the same mistakes! They violated the same health laws.

For instance, it is well known that obese people have a shorter life expectancy than other people. In laboratory experiments, rats fed an unlimited diet were found to die sooner than animals prevented from gaining weight by a restricted diet. Overweight is the most common nutritional disease in the United States and Western world, today. Was this also true in ancient times?

Writes Rene Dubos: “This was apparently true also in Imperial Rome, as during all periods of great material prosperity. ‘In the old days,’ wrote Lucretius in the fifth book of *De Rerum Natura*, ‘lack of food gave languishing limbs to Lethe; contrariwise today *surfeit of things stifles us.*’ Thus, history repeats itself. Like the prosperous Romans of two thousand years ago, countless men of the Western world today are digging their own graves through overeating” (*Mirage of Health*, pp. 155-156). This curse has become especially prevalent in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Diet played a very important role in the diseases of ancient times, just as it does today. And seemingly, for all his 6,000 years experience, man has progressed very little -- if at all -- in prevention of disease. We face many of the identical diseases today that crippled and killed the ancient Egyptians. Why is this the case? The modern world has overlooked the sensible guidelines and health instruction contained in the pages of Scripture.

### ***Bubonic Plague -- Scourge of the Middle Ages***

During the 14th century bubonic plague-called the “Black Death” -- struck Asia and spread to Russia, Persia, Turkey, North Africa and Europe. Perhaps *one third of the world population* died in that tragic epidemic. The dead were thrown into huge pits, mass graves, and rotting bodies lay about everywhere. The final grim toll of the Black Death was an estimated 60 million lives.

Balavignus was a distinguished Jewish physician who lived during the first part of the 14th century in Europe. He lived at a time when London and Paris were reeking with garbage and filth -- when refuse was simply thrown in the gutter and left to stink. Balavignus was a student of the Old Testament and was familiar with the medical information set forth in it.

When the Black Death broke out in 1346 and swept through Europe, like a hurricane, Balavignus saw that the miserable sanitation throughout Europe was a major factor in the quick spread of the disease. He instituted a cleanup movement among the Jews of Strassburg. He had all refuse burned. The rats consequently left the Jewish ghettos and moved into the Gentile

sectors of the city. As a result, the Jews' mortality rate from the plague was only five percent of what it was among their non-Jewish neighbors!

This striking fact did not go unnoticed by their superstitious Gentile neighbors. The general population soon saw the difference, and were amazed. But instead of emulating the Jewish hygienic measures, the surrounding people began to *suspect the Jews* of causing the plague by poisoning their wells! As a result, a general massacre was launched. Balavignus himself, persecuted and tortured, was finally compelled to "confess" that he and others were responsible for the disease epidemic.

How was the Black Death finally conquered? David Riesman, Professor of the History of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, put it this way: "*Isolation of the sick and quarantine came into use*. These practices not only eliminated the plague as a pandemic menace for the first time in history but also led to general laws against infectious diseases, thereby laying the foundations upon which modern hygiene rests" (*Medicine in the Middle Ages*, p. 260).

Where did these principles originate? From the Bible!

The Old Testament contains many hygienic injunctions which relate to health. If the world would have obeyed them, its disease toll would have been drastically cut. Until the close of the 17th century, hygienic conditions in cities were generally deplorable. Excrement was often dumped into the streets. Flies, breeding in the filth, and rodents spread and carried disease to millions. During the Industrial Revolution working-class families sometimes lived in squalid, dark, airless tenements, perhaps 30 families sharing one toilet which probably was connected to a cesspool overflowing into the street. Some households simply emptied chamber pots out the window. As a result, streets sometimes looked more like garbage pits than avenues!

In 1842 Edwin Chadwick, an English lawyer, showed that the working-class suffered a higher incidence of disease than upper classes because of miserable living conditions. He reported on the unsatisfactory sanitary conditions and thus fostered a great sanitary movement throughout the Western world.

Self-seeking landlords and slum owners protested and opposed any clean-up measures, but gradually progress was made. By clearing away the filth, the sanitariums removed the breeding grounds of microbes which caused many diseases. As a result, in the second half of the 19th century, epidemics of typhus, typhoid, dysentery and cholera dramatically decreased.

The same lesson had to be learned the hard way in hospitals. During the first part of the 19th century, hospitals seldom had running water. Surgeons wiped their tools on their trousers. There was little regard for sanitation and cleanliness. Infections were rampant, and as many as one third of all pregnant women in hospitals died of puerperal fever, a form of blood poisoning.

However, unknown to scientists and men of medicine, incredibly, the principle of burying excrement and filth -- the basic underlying principle of MODERN SANITATION -- was a basic LAW given in the Scriptures, fourteen centuries before Christ.

God told Moses and the children of Israel, “Also you shall have a place also outside the camp, where you may go out; and you shall have an implement among your equipment, and when you sit down outside, you shall dig with it and turn and cover your refuse” (Deut. 23:12-13, NKJV).

Castiglioni wrote, “The regulations in Deuteronomy as to how soldiers should prevent the danger of infection coming from their excrement by covering it with earth constitute a most important document of sanitary legislation” (*A History of Medicine*, p. 70). Castiglioni declared, “Study of Biblical texts appears to have demonstrated that the ancient Semitic peoples, in agreement with *the most modern tenets of epidemiology*, attributed more importance to animal transmitters of disease, like the rat and the fly, than to the contagious individual” (*Ibid.*, p. 71).

An indication that the Hebrews knew that the rat was implicated in the spread of plague is found in I Samuel 6:4-5, where an outbreak of plague was associated with “rats that have ravaged the whole land” (*Living Bible*). But 3,000 years later, when the Bubonic Plague devastated Europe, this knowledge had become lost. Some blamed noxious fumes in the air, some blamed the stars, some blamed a conjunction of Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, some blamed the Jews, and many blamed God.

The world did not wake up to the importance of hygiene and cleanliness until about the end of the 18th century. Yet these vital principles of sanitation and cleanliness were expounded long ago by God to Moses!

States Dr. D. T. Atkinson, “in the Bible greater stress was placed upon *prevention* of disease than was given to the treatment of bodily ailments, and in this no race of people, before or since, has left us such a *wealth of laws relative to hygiene and sanitation as the Hebrews*. These important laws, coming down through the ages, are *still used to a marked degree in every country in the world sufficiently enlightened to observe them*. One has but to read the book of Leviticus carefully and thoughtfully to conclude that the admonitions of Moses contained therein are, in fact, *the groundwork of most of today's sanitary laws*. As one closes the book, he must, regardless of his spiritual leanings, feel that the wisdom therein expressed regarding the rules to protect health are superior to any which then existed in the world and that to this day they have been little improved upon” (*Magic, Myth and Medicine*, Atkinson, p. 20).

### *Laws of Quarantine*

Another plague which prevailed in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries in Europe was leprosy. England, Sweden, Iceland and Norway showed alarming gains in the numbers of leprosy cases in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. But when the authorities began to institute the *quarantine*, in the form of segregation of leprosy cases, the plague was again brought under control.

In Norway rigid national quarantine was introduced in 1856 because of the widespread severity of leprosy. “Ninety years later the health authorities were able to report that Norway had *only five per cent* of the number of lepers that were there before segregation. Similarly favorable reports come to us from Finland and Sweden, where enforced segregation of lepers had also been instituted,” writes D. T. Atkinson (*Magic, Myth and Medicine*, p. 64).

Where did these quarantine laws come from? This same author tells us,

“It is most singular that a description of leprosy, as found in the thirteenth chapter of Leviticus, could have been written so long before our time. It is to be noticed that such an accurate description of this dread malady as it appears in the Biblical narrative is not to be found in the literature of any nation for the next seventeen hundred years” (*ibid.*, p. 25-26).

Atkinson continues:

“*The laws of health laid down in Leviticus are the basis of modern sanitary science. Moses ordered that cases of leprosy should be segregated, that dwellings from which infected Jews had gone should be inspected before again being occupied, and that persons recovering from contagious disease were not to be allowed to go abroad until examined. The modern quarantine harks back to these sanitary regulations of the Old Testament*” (p. 58).

In Vienna in 1846 Ignaz Semmelweis noticed that one patient in eight died of puerperal fever in one ward where they were tended by physicians and medical students who had just performed autopsies on victims who had died. He noticed that in a ward ministered by midwives, however, the death rate was much lower. He ordered all attendants to wash their hands before treating the patients and the following year the death rate dropped to zero. Unfortunately, the medical authorities were not impressed, refused to believe there was any direct connection, and Semmelweis was fired!

The truly remarkable fact is that Semmelweis, far ahead of the prevailing medical opinion of his time in the mid-1800s, was essentially 3,200 years behind in medical knowledge, because the laws of hygiene were also revealed by God to Moses! Almost 1,500 years before Christ, God gave Moses detailed instructions on washing and cleaning one’s hands and body after handling the dead! You can read these hygienic laws in Numbers 19:11-22.

Semmelweis made an important discovery, but merely washing the hands once would not be accepted as proper sanitation in any reputable hospital, today. However, the Biblical laws went further. They stated the person who touched a corpse was to be considered “unclean seven days.” The third day he was to purify himself and be sprinkled with the water of separation or purification. That is, the water was to be thrown on him (Hebrew *zaraq*, “to throw” or “sprinkle”). *Running water* was to be used (verse 17). This duty was to be repeated on the seventh day, and the individual was then to wash his clothes and bathe himself in water -- and then he would be considered “clean.”

*Running water* insured that the water was uncontaminated. The repeated washings insured that there were time intervals which allowed exposure to the sun to kill any bacteria which had not been washed off. The washing of clothing and change of clothes also insured protection from spreading infection.

Were these hygienic laws merely ancient “superstition” based on mythology? Nonsense! They were invaluable and wise safeguards from various sources of contamination! Clearly,

regardless of the source of his wisdom, Moses was 3,000 years ahead of his time!

Speaking of His divine LAWS, which protect human health and vitality, God declared to Moses and the children of Israel:

"If you will diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his sight, give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I WILL PUT NONE OF THE DISEASES UPON YOU which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who HEALS YOU" [that is, His very name is *Yahveh-Ropheka*, which is Hebrew for "the Lord your Healer"] (Exodus 15:26).

Unfortunately, in our modern world nations and communities have lost sight of the importance of sanitation and hygiene. Modern cities are increasingly polluted, filthy and dirty. Our air is becoming unfit to breathe because of pollutants; water is becoming fouled and contaminated with industrial chemicals and urban wastes.

### ***Biblical Dietary Laws***

Modern man also knows that DIET plays a vital role in disease prevention. This knowledge was also revealed in the Scriptures. God gave His people dietary guidelines which, if followed, would prevent much human disease and insure vibrant, robust health. Perhaps the most interesting point of all, however, is the fact that medical science has proved there is a correlation between heart disease and diets high in animal fat. Fatal coronary heart disease has been caused by diets containing high levels of fat. Animal fats are high in cholesterol.

But what does this have to do with the Bible? Leviticus 7:23 says, "You shall not eat any fat, of ox or sheep or goat." Dr. Paul Dudley White once declared, "It is conceivable that a few years from now we medical men may repeat to the citizens of the United States of America the advice that Moses was asked by God to present to the children of Israel 3,000 years ago." He was right!

Proper diet is vitally important in the prevention of disease. In Leviticus 11 we read of important dietary laws which God gave His people. Among other things, he forbade them to eat the flesh of swine, rabbits, or shellfish (Lev. 11:6, 7, 9-12). Writes Dr. Louis Lasagna: "Many of these make good medical sense . . . The prohibition of hare and swine as sources of food certainly must have diminished the incidence of disease, in view of the capacity of these animals to transmit tularemia and trichinosis, respectively. The transmission of gastrointestinal infections (including typhoid fever) via polluted shellfish or water also testifies to the apparent wisdom of the Hebrews in warning against such sea food and impure water" (*The Doctors' Dilemmas*, p. 85).

Interestingly, cancer of the cervix -- which comprises about 25 percent of the cancer of women in general -- is very rare among Jewish women. Wrote Dr. Louis Lasagna,

"Since the beginning of the nineteenth century it has been known that, married or unmarried, Gentile women have two to three times as high an incidence of

genital cancer (particularly cancer of the cervix) as do Jewish women. Wherever physicians have compiled statistics-in New York and Vienna, Budapest and London, Leeds and Amsterdam-this differential susceptibility to genital cancer has emerged” (*ibid.*, p. 243).

This finding astounded the medical experts. Why are Jewish women comparatively free from this dreaded scourge? Medical researchers have concluded that it is because the practice of circumcision, which God gave to Abraham and his descendants, enables men to keep the glans penis and foreskin clean and free from the bacteria which could otherwise become lodged beneath the foreskin.

In regard to circumcision, Lasagna writes: “The practice almost *guarantees* against the development of cancer of the penis, and may be related to the lower incidence of cancer of the cervix in Jewish women” (*The Doctors’ Dilemmas*, p. 85).

Another important law in the Old Testament which may be related to lower incidence of cancer of the cervix is the law against having sexual intercourse during a woman’s menstrual period (Lev.20:18).

The Bible, clearly, is a *remarkable* Book. Its various portions, written from 2,000 to 5,000 years ago, speak plainly, clearly, and authoritatively all across the field of health and disease prevention. The Bible not only gave laws of sanitation and hygiene thousands of years before modern medical science came on the scene. Sadly, its wisdom is still ignored by millions, today, as they go about their lives and suffer the consequences. Violating the Biblical laws on sexual intercourse, marriage, and fidelity have created a world of pain and suffering, including venereal diseases, AIDS, resulting in great suffering, agony, and premature death. When will we ever learn?

Nevertheless, these keys to radiant health were REVEALED in the pages of the Bible thousands of years ago!

### *"Star Clusters" in Space*

The patriarch Job was very familiar with the study of the stars. God asked Job, “Canst thou bind the sweet influences of the Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion? Canst thou bring forth Mazzaroth in his season? or canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons? Knowest thou the ordinances of heaven” (Job 38:31-33).

The *Amplified Bible* has this passage in more modern English, as follows: “Can you bind the *chains* of [the cluster of stars called] Pleiades, or loose the *cords* of [the constellation] Orion? Can you lead forth the signs of the Zodiac in their season? Or can you *guide* [the stars of] the Bear with her young?”

There is more behind this strange question than mere ancient Hebrew poetry. Why does the writer mention the “chains” of the Pleiades? And the “cords” of Orion? Why does he single out the constellation of the Bear, asking if Job can “guide” it?

The implications of this simple verse are staggering to astronomers. Why is that? Consider the following scenario: The patriarch Job, who probably lived during the time after the Flood, but before Moses, who may have been a contemporary of Joseph, the son of Jacob, circa 1700 B.C., evidently possessed some peculiar knowledge about the star groups or “clusters” in question -- the Pleiades, Orion, and the Bear! The words he used to describe these otherwise “normal” constellations in the night sky indicated that he understood something about them that was *not common knowledge* -- facts about them that were not even discovered by modern science until the 20th century!

Job seemed to know that the Pleiades, the stars of Orion, and the Bear (Ursa Major or the Big Dipper) actually travel together through space as “units” or “clusters” of stars. Since the “chains” of Pleiades is mentioned, and the “cords” of Orion, Job knew that these particular groups of stars are more than just your average “constellation” in the sky -- he knew that there is something UNIQUE about them! He knew that they are actually *local groups of stars moving through interstellar space together!*

The original Hebrew word translated “bind” regarding the Pleiades is *qashar*, a primitive root which means “to tie, physically, gird, confine, compact” – “bind up, join together, knit.” It is *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance* #7194. Its basic meaning is “to BIND, to bind anything to anything,” “to bind together” (*Gesenius Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon*). The word for “sweet influence,” or “chains,” referring to the Pleiades, is the Hebrew *ma’adannah*, meaning “a BOND, group.” It is #4575 in *Strong’s*. The *Gesenius Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon* has it, “bonds, from the root ‘to bind.’ Job 38:31, ‘The BANDS of the Pleiades.’”

Concerning the constellation Orion, the Hebrew word for “loose” is #6605, *pathach*, and means, “to open wide, to loosen,” “let go free,” “ungird.” It means, in this instance, “to loose, as bonds” (*Gesenius*). The word for “bands” is #4189, *mowshakah*, meaning, “something drawing, i.e., a cord -- band,” from *mashak*, “to draw.”

The word for “guide” referring to the Bear (Ursa Major), the stars of the Big Dipper, is the Hebrew word *nachah*, #5148, and means, “to guide, by implication, to transport, lead forth.” It means “to lead,” or “lead forth (as troops),” says *Gesenius*.

Now let us consider the staggering implications of the usage of these particular words on the part of Job, who wrote his book about 3,700 years ago, long before even the time of Moses, during an age when the world was supposedly steeped in ignorance, superstition, and gross darkness. Says the *Larousse Encyclopedia of Astronomy*:

“Usually it is found that the motions of the different stars of a constellation figure are oriented quite at random-confirming our conclusion that their apparent mutual proximity is simply an effect of perspective. *But there are certain exceptions to this rule. Occasionally, velocities of the same order of magnitude, and oriented in more or less parallel directions, are observed.* Such stars, without being 'near' to one another in the ordinary sense, nevertheless form a *physically connected unit and are voyaging through space together.* They are said to belong to the *same star stream*, or to form a *moving cluster.*

“Five of the principal stars of the *Great Bear* form such a moving cluster. The same thing is encountered among the stars of Orion, and with the two clusters of stars in Taurus known as the Hyades and the *Pleiades*.”

How did the patriarch Job, who lived 3,700 years ago, give or take a few centuries just to be safe, ever in the remotest, wildest stretches of his imagination, envision that the particular star constellations of THE GREAT BEAR (Ursa Major), ORION, and the PLEIADES, *MOVED TOGETHER THROUGH THE COSMOS AS “STAR CLUSTERS,” BOUND TOGETHER AND “VOYAGING THROUGH SPACE TOGETHER”*?

By what “intuition” or gift of knowledge was Job made aware of these facts not understood by mankind until the advent of modern telescopes and other astronomical tools of research during the twentieth century?

Is it not possible that the ancients of that time actually possessed telescopes and similar inventions, and that they, too, studied the stars, not only for calendrical purposes, but for navigational purposes, to guide sailing ships across the seas? But even if they did, did they possess powerful enough telescopes to discern which groups of stars are clusters and which are not?

Anyway you look at it, the evidence of incredible knowledge of the cosmos and the stars in the book of Job is beyond modern human explanation of skeptics and agnostics! Either men were far more educated and advanced back thousands of years ago, or else GOD HIMSELF revealed this knowledge to men and caused them to write it down in Scripture!

Abraham, a predecessor of Job, the father of the Israelites, was also a notable astronomer. He lived about 200 years before Job, and according to the Jewish historian Josephus:

“He was the first that ventured to publish this notion, that there is but one God, the creator of the universe. . . This his opinion was derived from the irregular phenomena that were visible both at land and sea, as well as those that happen to the sun and moon, and all the heavenly bodies” (*Antiquities*, I, vii, 1).

Josephus quotes the ancient historian Berosus as saying, “In the tenth generation after the flood, there was among the Chaldeans a man righteous and great, and skillful in the celestial science.” This was Abraham. Josephus also mentions that Abraham taught the science of astronomy, and mathematics, to the Egyptians! (*Antiquities*, I, viii, 2). This knowledge later became lost! It may have been destroyed in the great fire that consumed the great library in Alexandria, Egypt. This knowledge was not rediscovered, or once again properly understood, until the modern twentieth century, and therefore these Bible verses could not be fully understood until our modern time!!

### ***TRUE Science***

Stop and think, for a moment. The pagans worshipped the heavenly bodies. Christians worship the Almighty One who put them out there!

Pagans believed in astrology and worshipped the sun, moon and stars. But in the pages of the Bible, God expressly CONDEMNS such worship. He tells us the purpose of the creation of the heavenly bodies: “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” (Gen. 1:14).

Human methods of counting time, and human clocks, are all based on the motions of the heavenly bodies. The earth rotates at a relatively constant speed, giving us day and night; it revolves around the sun at a relatively constant speed, taking one year per revolution. The moon revolves around the earth, giving us the lunar month. Every human timepiece -- whether it be a wristwatch or a Grandfather’s Clock, with Westminster chimes -- is kept accurate by timing them with the most precise Clock ever invented -- the solar system and the stars!

*Time* is kept accurate by basing time, calculations and computations on the precise movements of the stars and the positions of the fixed stars. The master clock in the United States is at the Naval Observatory, Washington, D.C. By measuring time by the stars, the Naval Observatory keeps track of time to the tiniest fraction of a second.

By knowing the exact movements of the heavenly bodies, solar and lunar eclipses can be PREDICTED *thousands of years* in advance!

God inspired David to write, “He made the moon for *fixed times*; the sun knows its time of setting” (Psalm 104:19, *Goodspeed*). Or, as the *Amplified Bible* has it, “the sun knows the EXACT TIME of its setting.”

Take a close look at your watch. It is a delicate, intricate, manmade instrument for telling time. You know, as you look upon your watch, that a watchmaker somewhere made your watch. It may have been made in Switzerland, which is famous for its quality watches. But you KNOW -- and you REALLY KNOW -- that your watch has no brains, consciousness, or intelligence of its own. You know that it didn't invent itself, or construct itself, and out of nowhere suddenly “decide to EXIST” and create ITSELF! You know it wasn’t made by “sheer accident.” Elements of the ground, and sand and water and iron and tin and sun and heat didn’t just “CONSPIRE” to haphazardly, accidentally come together to manufacture your “watch.” You KNOW your “watch” did not just “EVOLVE” over aeons of time!

When you stop to think about it, the longer the time, the LESS possible for your “watch” to have evolved! Time is not the genius that creates watches. INTELLIGENCE is required, and also POWER and MATERIALS. Where did all those things come from? According to the Second Law of Thermodynamics, the more TIME you have, the more a system will tend to become random and chaotic, and lose energy – the very OPPOSITE of “creation”!

Let’s face it! ALL CREATION demands the existence of a CREATOR! Your watch, and this entire UNIVERSE, didn’t just somehow decide to put itself together! NO WAY! Great painstaking and careful workmanship went into making your “watch.” Its many delicate parts were made with great precision. The more money you paid for your watch, the better it probably

is. But you know that if you don't wind it up regularly, or replace the battery in it, it will eventually run down, and stop ticking. The second, minute, and hour hands will stop moving -- or, if it is a digital read-out watch, the numbers will simply fade from view.

Consider, now, the Universe -- the Great Master Clock in the Sky. What we call the "Universe" is composed of millions upon millions and billions of Galaxies, many of them with billions of stars. The Universe is the greatest "Clock" of all. It, like your own watch, at one time had to be "created" -- brought into existence by a Great Clock-Maker.

The Scriptures tell us, "In the beginning, GOD created the heavens and the earth" (Gen.1:1). There was never a more *SCIENTIFIC STATEMENT than that!*

The Great Master Clock had to be "manufactured." It had to be "wound up," with potential "energy" placed within it. It had to be set in motion -- started "ticking." And the Great Universal "Clock" is *STILL "TICKING" today!*

It is still the most accurate timepiece in existence. Its parts -- the stars, globular clusters, and galaxies -- still move with age-old, timeless precision! Its "pulsars" -- rapidly rotating, spinning super-dense stars -- still operate with incredible precision and timeliness! You keep your watch running by winding it up. Who keeps the Great Clock of the universe operating? Who *SUSTAINS* it?

The Bible reveals this Creator GOD who brought the Universe into existence. It reveals "science" in the Old Testament which men of that time could not have understood without *DIVINE* assistance!

*TRUE SCIENCE* is willing to study the evidence. True scientists are willing to acknowledge the facts, even if they contradict modern "theories." True science admits the existence of the original "Clock Maker," Almighty God, and confesses that godless evolutionary theory is nothing but an escape hatch for fools who don't want to face the fact of God's eternal existence. True science admits GOD made the heavens and the earth. True science also reveals God as the *SUSTAINER* of the universe!

True science sees the hand of God in the creation, functioning, and activity in the Universe -- and in the writing and preservation of *the Holy Bible!* But those who deny the Scriptures, who deny the existence of God, and His power to divinely inspire His Word, are truly "fools" in His sight! Those who believe in the theory of evolution of life on earth, are deceiving themselves. The apostle Paul calls such a "science" *NOT* true science but "science *falsely so-called*" (I Tim. 6:20).

Solomon wrote in the book of Proverbs, "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter. The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings, is unsearchable" (Proverbs 25:2-3).

Isn't it about time we really "search out" the Scriptures, and search out the existence of God -- and the divine inspiration of His Word, the Bible?

## The Earth Suspended in Space



Isaiah the prophet wrote that God is He who “sits over the round earth” (Isaiah 40:22, Moffatt translation). The King James says “circle of the earth.” The Hebrew word is *chuwg* meaning “circle, compass, circuit” – something round. At the time the pagans believed the earth was flat, Biblical prophets testified that it is round, as a sphere.

The patriarch Job, in one of the earliest written books of the Scriptures, testified that the earth “is turned as clay to the seal” (Job 38:14), showing that he understood that the earth itself revolves on an axis, turning as it goes. The Hebrew word for “turned” here is *haphak* and means “to turn about or over.” Thus Job knew the earth “turned about” or “turned over” – rotated like a spinning top.

Job also relates that God “suspends the earth over nothing” (Job 26:7, NIV) – that is, it is suspended in space, floating on emptiness. Ancient Egyptians pictured the earth as being carried about on the back of a giant tortoise or turtle. The Bible was centuries ahead of its time! Where did Job obtain this understanding?

How did these writers of the Bible, who lived between 2700 and 3500 years ago, long before modern science revealed the secrets of the heavens, understand these fundamental truths of physics and astronomy? New research reveals that the Bible is the most incredible book of all time – containing glimpses of amazing knowledge revealed to man.

## The Mystery of the Pleides



The Pleiades, or “Seven Sisters,” is a loose cluster of stars in the constellation of Taurus, the Bull, estimated by astronomers to be about 490 light years from the Earth. About 200 stars in the Pleiades may be seen with a telescope. In the book of Job, the patriarch was inspired to write, “Can you bind the beautiful Pleiades? Can you loose the cords of Orion? Can you bring forth the constellations in their seasons or lead out the Bear with its cubs? Do you know the laws of the heavens?” (Job 38:31-33, NIV). The *Amplified Bible* has this passage as follows: “Can you bind the *chains* of [the cluster of stars called] Pleiades, or loose the *cords* of [the constellation] Orion? Can you lead forth the signs of the Zodiac in their season? Or can you *guide* [the stars of] the Bear with her young?”

Job wrote that the stars of the Pleiades, Orion, and the Bear (Ursa Major or the Big Dipper) actually travel through space as groups of stars. Job knew that there is something unique about these star “clusters” -- these stars are actually *local groups of stars moving through interstellar space bound together!* How did he know? Why was this knowledge written in the Bible millennia before modern astronomy “proved” this to be the case?

