



Truth For These Times



46. ARE OTHER WORLDS INHABITED?

When we consider the vastness of space, and the multitude of stars, it seems most unreasonable to assume that planet earth is the only world inhabited. Dr. Russel T. Crawford, Director of the Berkeley Observatory, California, said, “To me it is the smallest thought imaginable to think that this speck of cosmic dust is the only place in the universe that is inhabited by intelligent beings.” Sir James Jeans stated “There must be myriads of worlds capable of supporting life as we know life here.”

The astronomers and scientists are not positive that life exists on other planets, but the Christian has no doubt about this question for the Bible settles it for all time.

Psalm 19:1 **THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD;** and the firmament shows His handiwork.

Think of the countless billions of shining stars, travelling their appointed courses in space. As we look up into the starry heavens we see the handiwork of God.

Job 26:7 He stretches out the north over empty space; *HE HANGS THE EARTH ON NOTHING.*

For centuries humanity believed the earth was supported by pillars, or upon the shoulders of the giant Atlas, or by elephants standing on the back of a giant turtle. It was not until 1530, due to the work of Copernicus, that it was discovered that the earth is suspended in space, hanging upon nothing as the Bible says.

Jeremiah 31:37 Thus says the LORD: “**IF HEAVEN ABOVE CAN BE MEASURED,** and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done”, says the LORD.

The distances and measurements in space are tremendous. Our sun is approximately 93 million miles away from the earth. The nearest star, beyond our sun, is Alpha Centauri – 4 light years away. A light year is the distance light would travel in one year, at the speed of 186,000 miles per second, or in actual miles 5,865,696,000,000. Andromeda is 750,000 light years distant. Astronomers have recently discovered a Quasar (code listing 0106+01) which is as far as 10,000 million light years away. This is approximately 60 billion trillion miles. No wonder it was impossible for the ancients to comprehend the measurements of the heavens.



The heavens reveal God’s glory and power.

Jeremiah 33:22 As the **HOST OF HEAVEN CANNOT BE NUMBERED,** nor the sand of the sea measured, so will I multiply the descendants of David My servant and the Levites who minister to Me.

Before the invention of the telescope anyone could count the stars. Hipparchus, the father of astronomy, said there were about 1,080. Through the telescope we have discovered that the stars are as plentiful as the grains of sand upon the seashore. Dr. Fritz Kahn, in his book *“Design of the Universe,”* page 156, says, “Our home in the universe is a spiral (or galaxy) of 200,000,000,000 stars, a unit of suns whirling through space like a fiery pinwheel.” Further, on page 167 he says, “If --- the island universes are distributed equally, we arrive at a figure of 1,000,000,000 galaxies, each composed of 200 to 500 billions of stars, each star 1,000,000 times as large as our earth.” The mind boggles when we endeavour to contemplate the vastness of the universe. Planet earth seems so insignificant.

All these tremendous wonders could not have happened by chance. Millions of mighty suns careering through space on set courses, and never coming into collision and confusion! Even the great atheist Voltaire once admitted, “The universe embarrasses me, and I cannot dream that this world exists, and has no maker. If there were no God, it would be necessary to invent Him.” David wrote long ago, “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God’.” Psalm 14:1. In Revolutionary times, a French infidel shouted to a Christian peasant, “We will pull down your churches, destroy your pictures and demolish everything that reminds you of God.” The peasant boldly replied, “But sir, you will leave us the stars.”



We can see billions of stars (beyond our solar system) through telescopes, but planets are too small to detect.

ARE OTHER WORLDS INHABITED?

Isaiah 45:18 For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, WHO FORMED IT TO BE INHABITED: “*I am the LORD, and there is no other.*”

If it is true that God formed planet Earth to be inhabited, surely it is true of other planets in the universe. It would seem unreasonable that the vast universe would be empty apart from our world.

The planets in our solar system can be seen through a telescope and many of them with the naked eye. However, beyond our solar system we can only see suns – we cannot see the planets around them. They are too far away for their reflected light to reach us. Scientists feel certain that planets are there because of gravitational influences on the stars. If we assumed that each star had 9 planets, as does our solar system, but only 1 in 1 million were inhabited, (a very conservative figure), there would still be 180 million million inhabited worlds. The mathematical probability of life on other worlds is very high.



The Bible indicates that God made more than just our world.

Hebrews 1:2 God...has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, THROUGH WHOM ALSO HE MADE THE WORLDS.

Notice carefully that “worlds” is plural and not singular. The original Greek word is plural. God made our planet, but this verse shows that He made the other WORLDS out there in space.

Isaiah 40:15 Behold, THE NATIONS ARE AS A DROP IN A BUCKET, and are counted as the small DUST ON THE SCALES; look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing.

A drop of water from a full bucket is very insignificant. The dust on the scales is of no consequence. The inhabitants of this world are compared with the multitudes of creatures from the rest of the universe. This text is telling us that the number of people living on this world is very minor compared with those living on the other worlds out there. This Scripture is strong evidence of life on other planets.

Isaiah 40:22 *It is* He who sits above THE CIRCLE OF THE EARTH, and its inhabitants *are* like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the HEAVENS like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to DWELL IN.

In the days when people believed the earth was flat, the Bible spoke of the “circle of the earth.” The Bible is scientifically accurate. The word circle means a sphere or a ball. Also we notice that the heavens were made to DWELL in. Here is another text to show us that people are “dwelling” or living out there.

Nehemiah 9:6 You alone *are* the LORD; YOU HAVE MADE HEAVEN, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and everything on it, the seas and all that is in them, and You preserve them all. THE HOST OF HEAVEN WORSHIPS YOU.



God has made everything we see,
not just this earth.

Here God is credited with all creation in heaven and earth. In the Bible study on Heaven we noted the three heavens of the Bible: Atmosphere, Space and Paradise. In this text we read of intelligent beings that worship their Creator. There are beings on other worlds that worship God.

Job 38:7 When the morning stars sang together, and all THE SONS OF GOD shouted for joy?

When God made this world, the “Sons of God” shouted for joy. Who were they? Adam and Eve were not yet created when the foundations of the earth were laid, so there was life out there before this world was created.

Luke 3:38 *The son* of Enos, *the son* of Seth, *the son* of Adam, **THE SON OF GOD.**

Adam was a son of God. He was the head over this new world. It is logical to conclude that the ‘Adams’ of the other worlds, the first inhabitants, are also sons of God by creation.

Revelation 12:12 Therefore rejoice, O *HEAVENS*, and YOU WHO DWELL IN THEM! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.

The starry heaven must be included here for it says, “heavens” and “them” indicating more than just the dwelling place of God. The Bible is clear that there are other worlds filled with intelligent beings that worship the creator.

Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man has come to seek and to SAVE *THAT WHICH WAS LOST.*

This one world is out of step with God's creation. It is the black sheep in the universe. This world alone has sold out to the master of evil – the devil. Adam lost the right of leadership when he sinned and Satan usurped it. The parable of the lost sheep refers to the sinner but it also has an application to planet earth – the lost sheep of the universe. Jesus came to save that which was lost – the lost sinner and a lost world.

Psalms 8:3,4

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, **WHAT IS MAN THAT YOU ARE MINDFUL OF HIM**, and the son of man that You visit him?



From the many worlds God created, our earth alone rebelled and followed Satan.

Colossians 1:15-17

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. **FOR BY HIM ALL THINGS WERE CREATED** that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

We marvel that God would bother to think of this insignificant world of sin, but thank God He has. Christ the Creator of all things, and the Upholder and Sustainer of the multiplied millions of worlds and their inhabitants came right down from the throne of glory to pay the redemption price for this world. What wonderful love? How great salvation!



Amongst the billions of planets, God gave ALL for this one small lost world.

The battle is not yet finished. Christ was victorious at Calvary. There He won back what Adam had lost. But we personally must make the choice to be on the side of Christ and receive eternal life at last. Soon this world will be in harmony with all God's creation. Today He is asking you to be in harmony with Him so that you will receive the reward he wants you to have – life everlasting.

Review Sheet – Are Other Worlds Inhabited?

ASSIGNMENT: Read the Bible study carefully before answering the following questions.

1. What does the Bible mean by saying God hangs the earth on nothing? Job 26:7
Answer: _____
2. What is the significance of the statement: “If heaven above can be measured”? Jeremiah 31:37
Answer: _____
3. How does Jeremiah 33:22 describe the vastness of heaven?
As the _____
4. For what purpose did God form planet earth? Isaiah 45:18
Who did not create it in vain, _____
5. What is the significance of the word “worlds” in Hebrews 1:2?
Answer, _____
6. Explain our seeming insignificance compared with the Universe. Isaiah 40:15
Answer: _____
7. When the world believed the earth was flat, what did the Bible reveal? Isaiah 40:22
He who sits above _____
8. Who are the other beings “out there” that worship God? Nehemiah 9:6; Job 38:7
a) _____
b) _____
9. Explain the meaning of “Heavens and you who dwell in them.” Revelation 12:12
Answer: _____
10. Jesus came “to save that which was lost.” What, in the universe was lost?
Answer: _____
11. Who created all things? Colossians 1:15-17
Answer: _____
12. Why do you think Jesus was prepared to sacrifice so much for a mere speck in the universe?
Answer: _____

Are you thankful God loves you? YES _____ NO _____