

The Immensity of the Universe

Genesis 1:1 When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Nehemiah 9: ⁶ And Ezra said, “You are the LORD, you alone; you have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. To all of them you give life, and the host of heaven worships you.”

Psalms 19: ¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
² Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
³ There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
⁴ yet their voice goes out through all the earth
and their words to the end of the world.
In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens
and its circuit to the end of them,
and nothing is hid from its heat.

Psalms 148: ¹ Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
² Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!
³ Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!
⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the heavens!
⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for he commanded and they were created.
⁶ He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Psalms 147: ¹ Praise the LORD!
How good it is to sing praises to our God,
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
⁴ He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.
⁵ Great is our Lord and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.

Psalms 8: ¹ O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

- ³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
⁴ what are humans that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?

John Calvin: The wisdom of God is visible through the whole world, but especially in the heavens. The Prophet indeed speaks briefly, but he leads us to contemplate God's wonderful work in its manifold variety, which appears above and below. For though it may seem a light matter, when he says, that the world was constituted by the wisdom of God, yet were any one to apply his mind to the meditation of God's wisdom in the abundance of all fruits, in the wealth of the whole world, in the sea, (which is included in the world,) it could not, doubtless, be, but that he must be a thousand times filled with wonder and admiration: for the more carefully we attend to the consideration of God's works, we ourselves in a manner vanish into nothing; the miracles which present themselves on every side, before our eyes, overwhelm us.

And, indeed, astrology may justly be called the alphabet of theology; for no one can with a right mind come to the contemplation of the celestial framework, without being enraptured with admiration at the display of God's wisdom, as well as power and goodness.

Job 38: Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

- ² "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?
³ Gird up your loins like a man;
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.
⁴ Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?
Tell me, if you have understanding.
⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?"

1 Kings 8: ²⁷ "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built!"

Isaiah 66:1 Thus says the LORD:

- Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool;
so what kind of house could you build for me,
what sort of place for me to rest?
² All these things my hand has made,
so all these things are mine,
says the LORD.

But this is the one to whom I will look,
to the humble and contrite in spirit
who trembles at my word.