

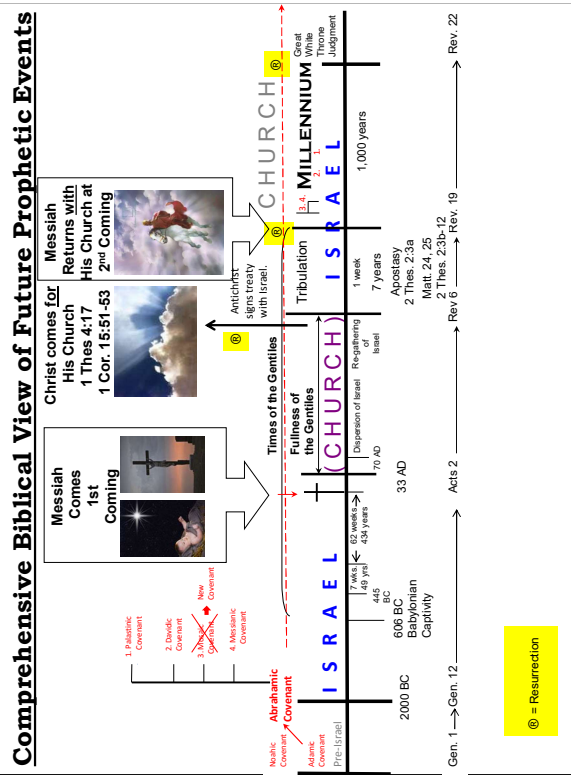
**"Seal #6: Shaking the Universe"**

**Rev. 6:12-14**

Sept. 10, 2017

**Rom 11:22**

**"Behold then the kindness and severity of God"**

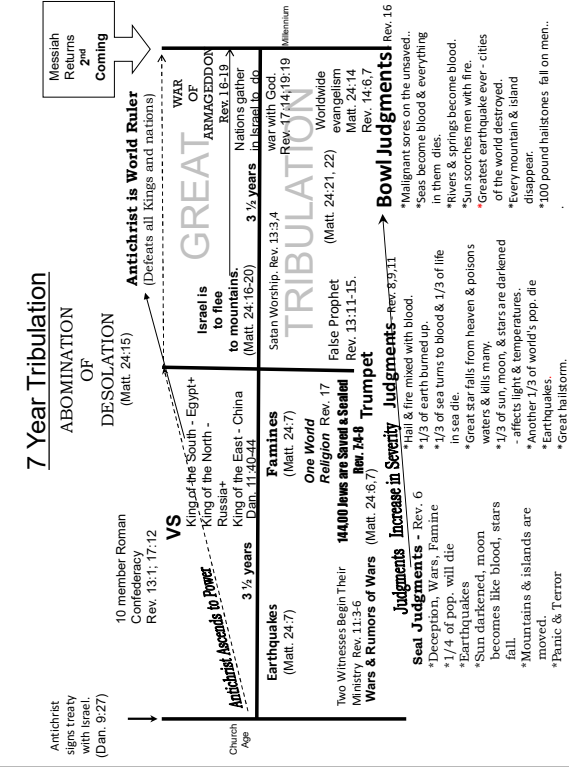


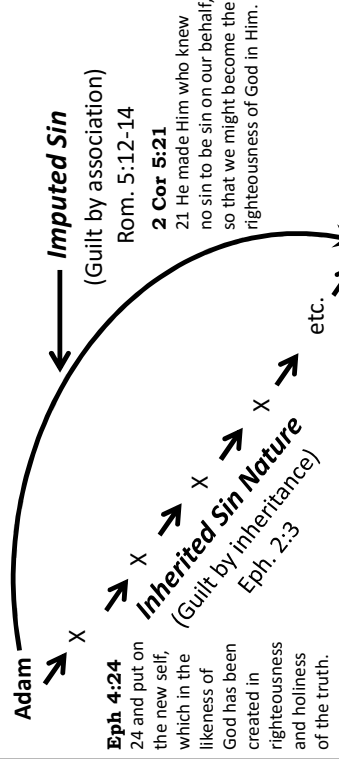
**Rev 6:12-14**

**12 I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood;**

**13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind.**

**14 The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.**





**1 Peter 1:15-16**  
 15 but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior;  
 16 because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

**2 Views - The Cause of "Natural Disasters"**

<u>Condition of Man</u>	<u>Motive</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Result</u>
Man is basically good	A loving God would never bring "natural disasters."	Mother Nature	Bad luck Bad timing
Man is sinful and Deserving of judgment.	"Natural disasters" are God's judgment on sinful man.	God	God determines who gets what, where, and when.

**Shaking the Universe -**

1) A Great Earthquake.

**Rom 5:18-19**

18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.  
 19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

**Luke 13:1-5**

- Now on the same occasion there were some present who reported to Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices.
- And Jesus said to them, "Do you suppose that these Galileans were greater sinners than all other Galileans because they suffered this fate?"
- "I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.
- "Or do you suppose that those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them were worse culprits than all the men who live in Jerusalem?"
- "I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

**Rev 6:12-14**

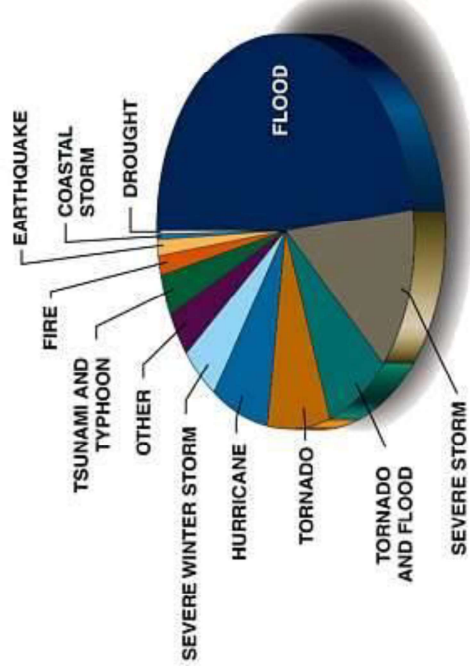
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- 14 The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

**Gen 1:1, 14-19**

- In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
- Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate 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 expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.
- God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also.
- God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth,
- and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good.
- There was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.

**Ps 148:3**

- Praise Him, sun and moon;
- Praise Him, all stars of light!



## Rev 6:12-14

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**σεισμος** – a shaking, a “mega” shaking, to cause to quake. Our word “seismology” comes from this Greek word. We get the English word “seismograph” which is an instrument to measure shaking. It is used of (1) an extension in space in all directions, as to length, numbers, or size, and (2) figuratively of measure, intensity, quantity, of natural phenomenon (strong, severe, intense), and of rank or importance. This will be the most severe, intense, shaking which the world or universe has ever known—one reaching out in all directions so that the whole universe is shaken.

\*\* This is not just a great earthquake, but a shaking of the universe.

\*\* This is more powerful and more intense and more destructive than all the earthquakes of all time put together.

**God likes to shake the world now and then:**

- He shook it at Sinai when He gave the law.
- He shook it when Elijah called on Him.
- He shook it when Jesus, His Son, was murdered before Him.
- He shook it when He wanted to release Paul and Silas from jail.

**All of this after global wars, famines, deadly diseases, wild beasts, the death of ¼ of the world population, and with the promise of world peace.**

“The seismos described here is worldwide in scope for the first time in history. Seismologists and geophysicists in recent years have learned a great deal about the structure of the earth and about the cause and nature of earthquakes. The earth’s solid crust is traversed with a complex network of faults, with all resting on a plastic mantle whose structure is still largely unknown. Whether the crust consists of great moving plates is a current matter of controversy among geophysicists so the ultimate cause of earthquakes is still not known. In all likelihood the entire complex of crustal instabilities is a remnant of the phenomena of the great Flood, especially the break up of the fountains of the great deep. In any case, the vast network of unstable earthquake belts around the world suddenly begin to slip and fracture on a global basis and a gigantic earthquake ensues. This is evidently naturally accompanied by tremendous volcanic eruptions, spewing vast quantities of dust and steam and gases into the upper atmosphere. It is probably these that will cause the sun to be darkened and the moon to appear blood red.”

- Dr. Henry Morris

## Hag 2:6

6 "For thus says the Lord of hosts, 'Once more in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea also and the dry land.

“Then in a moment, while some sleep and others are awake, while some are driving their car down the freeway and some are flying in an airplane, and some are walking, and some are jogging and some are at work and some are reading the paper in their dens and some are watching television and some are playing tennis and some are at home and others are in a hotel, some are in an auditorium, some are at a sporting event, some are at school, the whole universe starts to shake...a seismos from God that no seismograph could ever measure. And, you see, this is such a frightening thing because man always counts on the stable universe. He always counts on dawn and darkness, on the cycle of the rotation of the earth and the seasons, as it moves in orbit. Man demands uniformity in his world. And that’s what evolution tells him. . . . In a moment that theory is utterly exploded and the seismos hits.”

- John MacArthur

### **Rev 6:12-14**

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### **Shaking the Universe -**

- 1) *A Great Earthquake.*
- 2) *The Sun Darkened.*

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### **The Sun**

The sun is the most important and obvious of the heavenly bodies to those who live on planet earth. It's primary importance is 2-fold: 1. Heat. 2. Light  
**It is used in the Bible -**

1. To mark the time of day (Mark 1:32; Luke 4:40).
2. To refer to all of the activity of life. (Ecclesiastes speaks of "things under the sun").
3. It shows God's order, permanence, consistency, grace, and faithfulness (Matt. 5:45; Ps. 19:1, 4-6); righteousness, beauty and light (Mal. 4:2; Matt. 13:43).
4. It shows direction, i.e., east and west (Rev. 7:2; 16:12).
5. Primarily, it rules the day and separates the light from darkness or night (Gen. 1:14, 16).
6. In addition, it is for signs and for seasons; an indicator of seasons, and days, and years (Gen. 1:14).

### **Blackness and darkness are often associated with judgment.**

- When God judged Egypt, He brought thick blackness.
- When God came to Mount Sinai to lay down the law, it was shrouded in black smoke.
- When God judged His Son on the cross for our sins, from noon till three o'clock the world went black.
- Sackcloth was a very rough cloth made of the hair of a black goat and worn in times of mourning and despair. The blackening or darkening of the sun as a sign, speaks of God's judgment and the withdrawal of His longsuffering. This will be a time of great despair for man.



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### **Job 9:5-7**

5 "It is God who removes the mountains, they know not how;

When He overturns them in His anger;

6 Who shakes the earth out of its place,

And its pillars tremble;

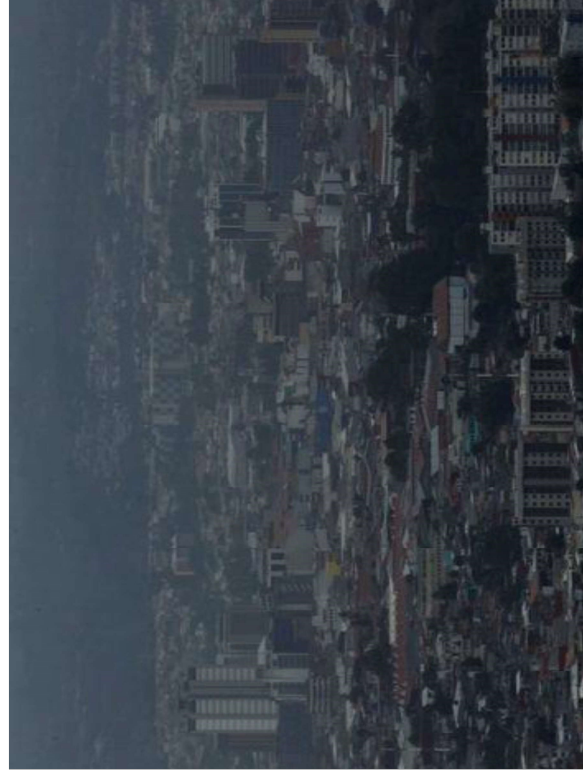
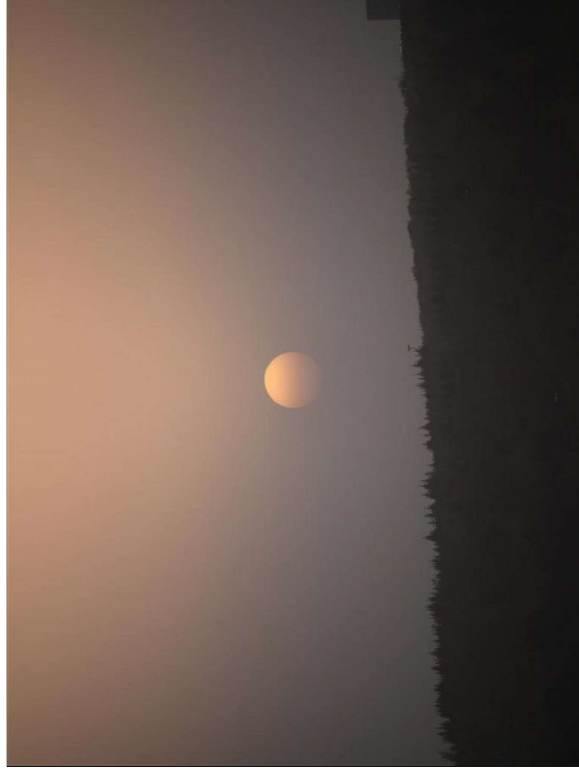
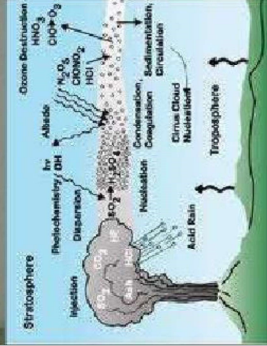
7 Who commands the sun not to shine,

And sets a seal upon the stars;



## **Volcanic Eruptions and Climate Change**

- During a large-scale volcanic eruption, enormous amounts of volcanic ash and gases are ejected into the upper atmosphere.
- As volcanic ash and gases spread throughout the atmosphere, they can block enough sunlight to cause global temperature to drop



### **Ezek 32:7-8**

7 "And when I extinguish you,

I will cover the heavens and darken their stars;

I will cover the sun with a cloud

And the moon will not give its light.

8 "All the shining lights in the heavens

I will darken over you

And will set darkness on your land,"

Declares the Lord God.

### **Zeph 1:14-15**

14 Near is the great day of the Lord,

Near and coming very quickly;

Listen, the day of the Lord!

In it the warrior cries out bitterly.

15 A day of wrath is that day,

A day of trouble and distress,

A day of destruction and desolation,

A day of darkness and gloom,

A day of clouds and thick darkness,

### Ex 10:21-23

21 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even a darkness which may be felt."

22 So Moses stretched out his hand toward the sky, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days.

23 They did not see one another, nor did anyone rise from his place for three days, but all the sons of Israel had light in their dwellings.

### Joel 2:10

10 Before them the earth quakes,

The heavens tremble,

The sun and the moon grow dark

And the stars lose their brightness.

### Joel 2:31

31 "The sun will be turned into darkness

And the moon into blood

Before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes.

### Matt 24:29

29 "But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

### Rev 6:12-14

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### Shaking the Universe -

1) A Great Earthquake.

2) The Sun Darkened

3) Moon turned to the color of blood.



### The Moon

#### The uses for the moon in Scripture:

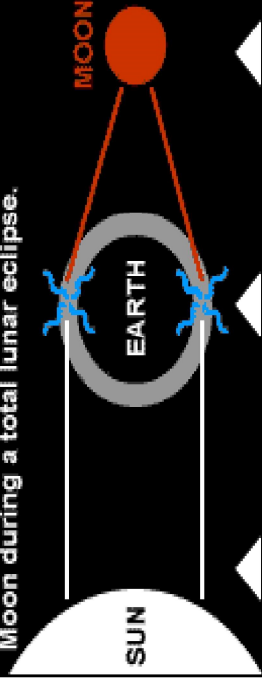
1. A light for the night (Gen. 1:16)
2. It shows a fixed and consistent order to God's creation (Jer. 31:35)
3. Beauty (Ps. 8:3)
4. Permanence and opportunity to know God (Ps. 72:5,7)
5. For signs, and for seasons (Gen. 1:14-16).
  - As a sign, the red color speaks of the loss of life and death. It will be frightening to look up at night and see a blood red moon.

#### 2 ways you get a "blood" (red) moon:

1. A lunar eclipse.

## Red Glow of an Eclipse

Though the effect is inconsistent, scattered sunlight can cast an orange or red glow on the Moon during a total lunar eclipse.



White sunlight is composed of all the colors of the rainbow.

The atmosphere scatters blue light. This is why the sky is blue.

Remaining red light is bent, or refracted, and then reflects off the Moon.

ROBERT ROY BRITT / SPACE.COM

NOT TO SCALE

## 2 ways you get a “blood” (red) moon:

1. A lunar eclipse.
2. Dust and gas particles in the atmosphere.



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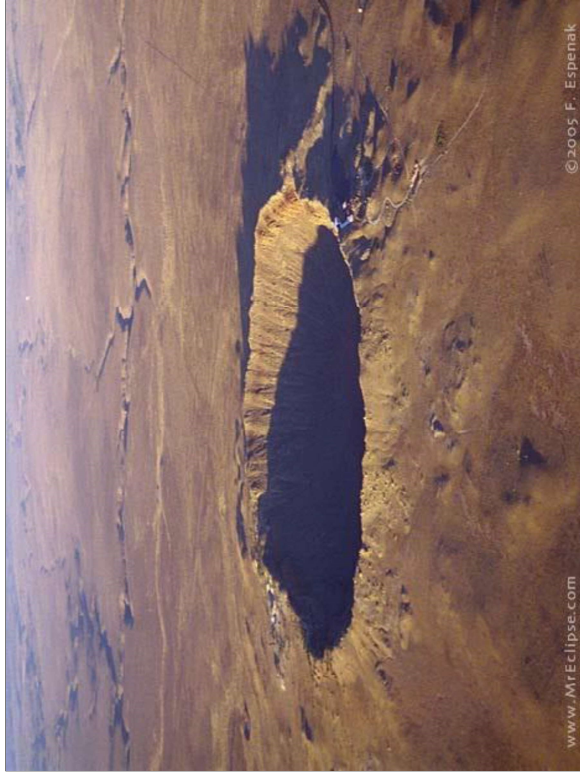
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“Stars” - ἀστέρων from which we get the word *asteroid*. ἀστέρων is used of any heavenly body seen at night, i.e., stars, planets, asteroids, meteors, etc.

- These are not stars as we often use the word which are huge and often dwarf the earth in size.
- These are meteorites or asteroids which are small by comparison to the earth.
- The famous Arizona meteorite crater is 4,200 feet across and 600 feet deep, but is estimated to have been caused by a meteorite of only two million tons, or about 300 feet across.
- The meteorite (or comet) which fell in Siberia in 1908 devastated over 1,000 square miles. The shock was felt as far away as Europe, while trees up to twenty miles from the site were blown over. Yet this body was estimated to be only 200 feet across.

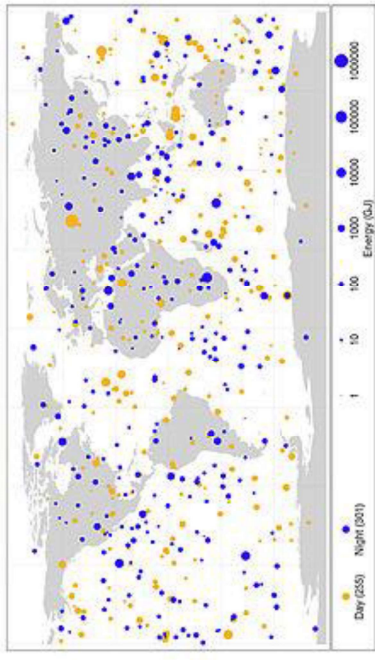


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## Bolide events 1994-2013

(Small asteroids that disintegrated in the Earth's atmosphere)

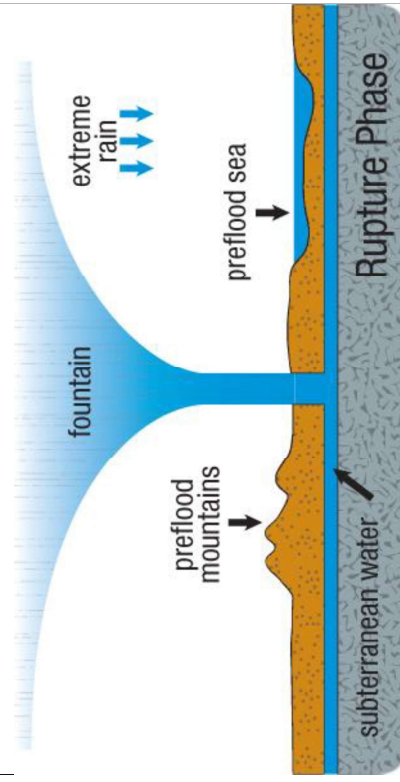


### Isa 13:9-13

9 Behold, the day of the Lord is coming,  
 Cruel, with fury and burning anger,  
 To make the land a desolation;  
 And He will exterminate its sinners from it.  
 10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations  
 Will not flash forth their light;  
 The sun will be dark when it rises  
 And the moon will not shed its light.  
 11 Thus I will punish the world for its evil  
 And the wicked for their iniquity;  
 I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud  
 And abase the haughtiness of the ruthless.  
 12 I will make mortal man scarcer than pure gold  
 And mankind than the gold of Ophir.  
 13 Therefore I will make the heavens tremble,  
 And the earth will be shaken from its place  
 At the fury of the Lord of hosts  
 In the day of His burning anger.

### Gen 7:11-12

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened.  
 12 The rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights.



## Asteroids



- A rocky object revolving around the sun
- It is smaller than a planet (this is what makes it different from terrestrial/rocky planets).
- They are found between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter in the **Asteroid Belt!**

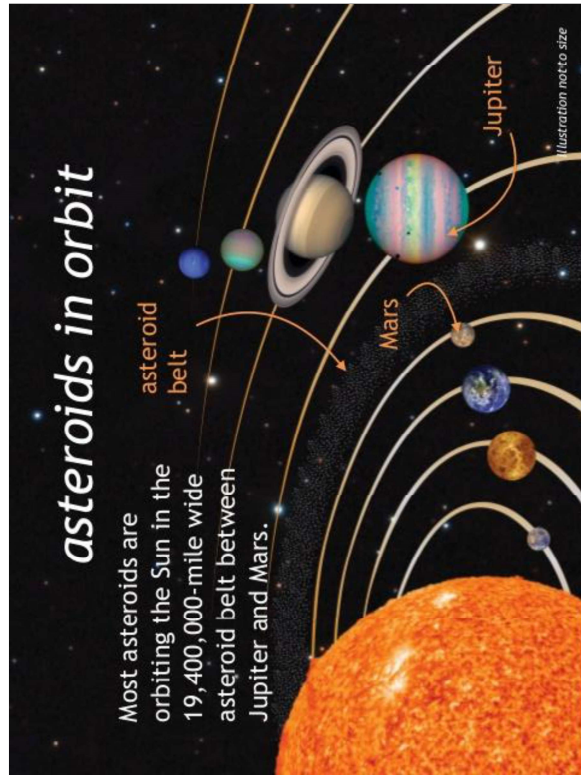
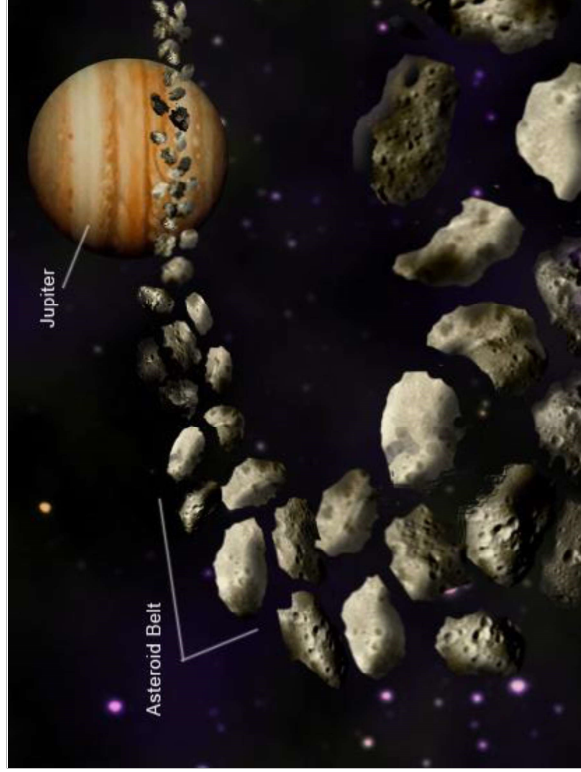
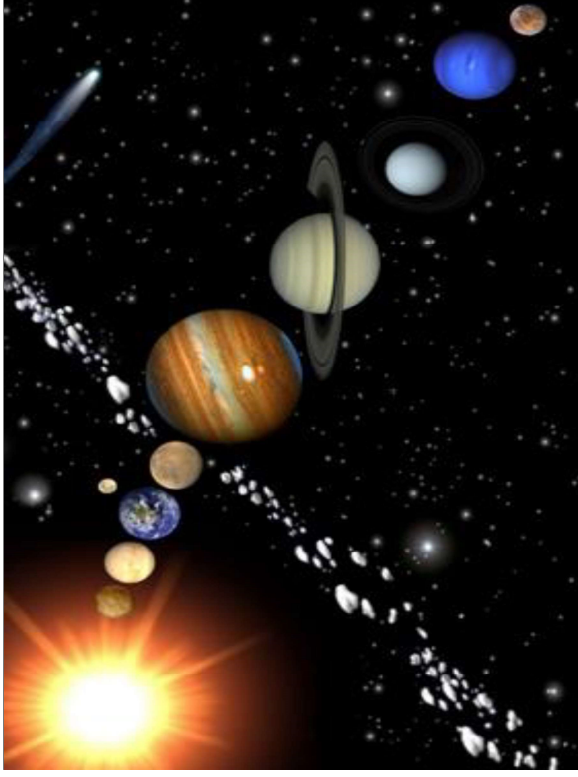
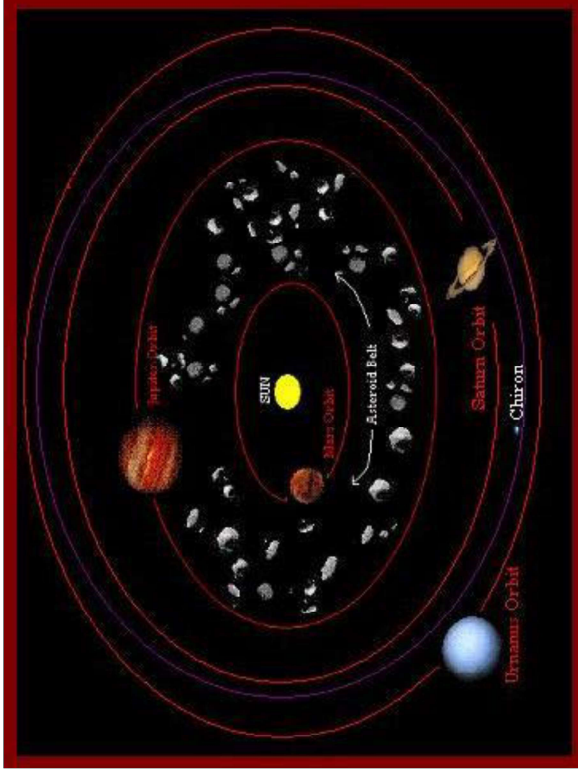


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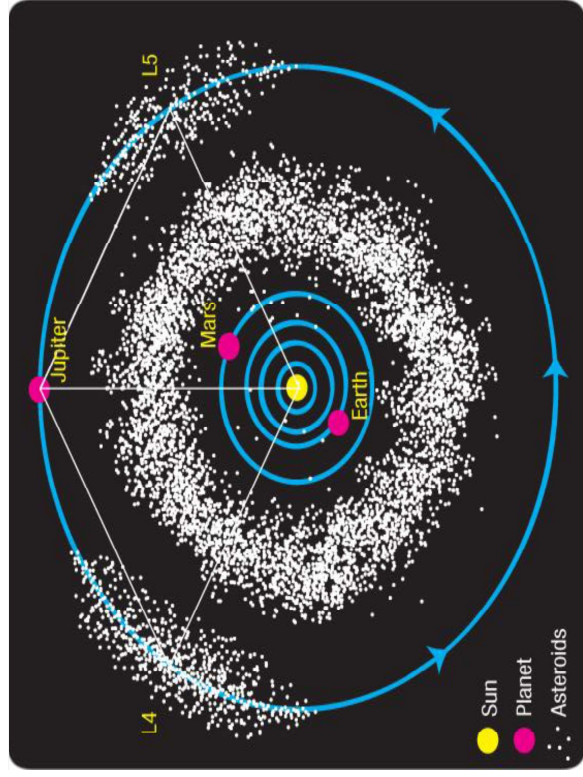


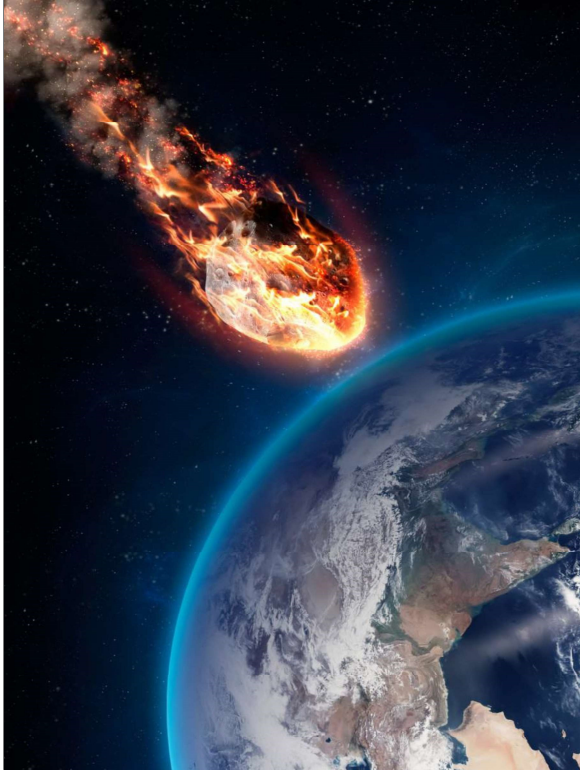
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- About 500 to 600 meteorites fall to Earth each year. Most fall into the sea or in unpopulated areas
- Most in the asteroid belt, range in diameter from the size of a house to as wide as a football field, and the largest ones could produce explosions far worse than the world's largest atomic bombs. Each one is capable of obliterating one of Earth's largest cities.
  - In 2013, a space rock blew up over Chelyabinsk, a small city in Russia. The blast damaged more than 7,000 buildings and injured 1,500 people seriously enough to require medical attention.
  - Earlier, in 1908, another space rock blew up over Tunguska, Russia, flattening more than 80 million trees. If it had detonated over Greater London, Tokyo, or New York City, it would have demolished those cities.

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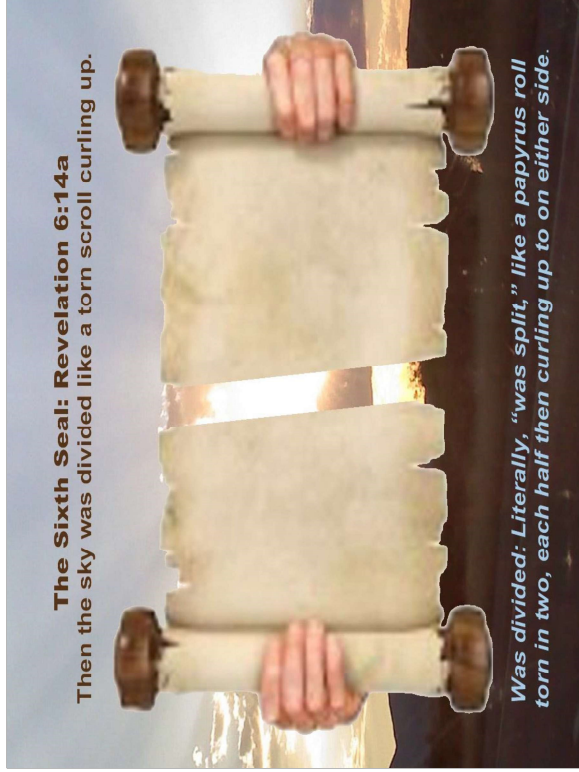
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- 4) Stars fall to the earth.
- 5) Sky is split apart.

**αποχωρίζω** from **απο** which means “from,” showing source, separation, departure,” plus **χωρίζω** which means “to separate, divide.”

*This compound verb means to tear apart, split or separate as when a huge curtain is separated or pulled back to reveal what lies behind it as in a theater.*



### **Isa 34:4**

4 And all the host of heaven will wear away,  
And the sky will be rolled up like a scroll;  
All their hosts will also wither away  
As a leaf withers from the vine,  
Or as one withers from the fig tree.

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- 5) Sky is split apart.
- 6) Every island and mountain is moved.

**There are approx. -**

- 2,000 islands
- 7,200 mountain peaks

The unstable crust of the earth begins to move and shift, and the faults split and the volcanic gases come out.

*"The earth's crust highly unstable ever since the great Flood will be so disturbed by the impacting asteroids, the volcanic explosions and the earthquakes, that great segments of it will actually begin to slip and slide over the earth's deep plastic mantle. . . . Everything is shaking."*

- Dr. Henry Morris



Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

On February 8, 1750, London was hit by a significant, but not catastrophic, earthquake. John Wesley was in London (Charles currently serving in Bristol) and records the event in his Journal. He followed his account with the comment: "How gently does God deal with this nation! O that our repentance may prevent heavier marks of his displeasure!" As this shows, the Wesley brothers shared the common assumption of their time that earthquakes, major storms, disease epidemic and similar events were more than just "accidents of nature." They were considered to be providential acts—sometimes as expressions of divine protection (thwarting the French fleet) or punishment, but more often (particularly in mild cases like this) as portents to a waken complacent humanity to our spiritual failures and duties.



Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Exactly one month later, on March 8, Charles Wesley was taking his turn directing the work in London when a second earthquake hit—a stronger shock, but still not catastrophic. The event is noted in Charles's Journal in an unusual way. He gives the date, marked with an asterisk, and then left a full page and a half blank. He obviously intended to insert more detail about the quake at some point, but he never returned to do so. He did, however, send a brief account in a letter to his brother, who was then in Bristol (printed in John's Journal entry for March 8).

Charles also rushed into print before the end of the month, Hymns occasioned by the Earthquake, March 8, 1750. The hymns emulate the common spirituality, calling for the British populace to acknowledge God's gracious warning and repent of their sins. Here is one of his "Earthquake Hymns" . . .

**WOE TO THE MEN ON EARTH WHO DWELL**

1. Woe to the men on earth who dwell,  
Nor dread the Almighty's frown,  
When God doth all His wrath reveal,  
And shower His judgments down!
2. Sinners, expect those heaviest showers,  
To meet your God prepare;  
For, lo! the seventh angel pours  
His phial in the air.
3. Lo! from their seats the mountains leap,  
The mountains are not found;  
Transported far into the deep,  
And in the ocean drowned.

3. Who then shall live, and face the throne,  
And face the Judge severe?  
When heaven and earth are fled and gone,  
O where shall I appear?
4. Now, only now, against that hour  
We may a place provide;  
Beyond the grave, beyond the power  
Of hell, our spirits hide:
5. Firm in the all destroying shock,  
May view the final scene;  
For, lo! the everlasting Rock  
Is left to take us in.