

**Biblical References to Stars and Planets and Natural Events**  
**08/19/15**

The following are from my references, and may be incomplete. Corrections and additions will be appreciated. References to wind, rain, hail etc. that were thought to be coming from the stars are not included. Scripture is quoted from Meeks, W. A., The HarperCollins Study Bible, NRSV, HarperCollins, 1989. Other references from Wycliffe Bible Encyclopedia, 1975.

Much of ancient astronomy, at least in the Western world, is based on the work and records of the Babylonians, Assyrians and Egyptians. References by the Jews in the Old Testament to astronomical events are generally based on this prior work.

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Citation	Description	Author or association	Dates put to writing (BCE)	Comment
Gen 9	Sun, moon and eleven stars	Moses	Exodus 1445 BCE	
Gen 15.5	Abraham counts the stars			Forecasts his descendants.
Gen 37.9	Sun, moon and eleven stars			Bowing down to Joseph
Exodus 19	Moses on Mt. Sinai		1400	Full glory of the cosmos visible from the mountain top.
Num 24.17	Star to come out of Jacob			Prophecy of Jesus
Deut 4.19	Commands Israelites to not be misled by looking at the heavens.	Moses	721-535	Some people thought that the planets were gods, and this scripture directs the Israelites to ignore them as false gods.
Josh 10.12-13	God commands the sun and moon to stop.		622	Biblical notes for this citation are that the sun and moon did not set for a whole day. The idea that they did is likely due to a misreading of the source poem. Justification for the long light

				period was to enable the Hebrew army to victor over an enemy
Jud 5.20	Stars fought from heaven			
Job 9.7-9	God stretches the heavens commands the sun to not rise and notes the Bear ( Arcturus), Orion and Pleiades	“Inspired writer”	1050-1009	Earliest mention of the constellations. All can be seen in October. Metaphysical statement on creation. Mentions “chambers of the South.”
Job 36:27	Describes process of water condensation and production of rain.			
Job 38	Compare to Big Bang story			
Job 38.31-33	Cite Pleiades and Orion			Establishes the rule of physical law in the universe.
Ps 8.3	“When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;”	David (?)	Indeterminate	
Ps 33:6	Gathers the waters of the seas and breath creation.			
Ps 93	Cites the world (universe) and God’s dominance.			Describes several natural events, i.e. flood and movement.
Ps 104	Stretch the heavens like a tent			God sets order over the universe.
Ecc 1:4-11	Earth remains		300-200 BCE	

	forever			
Isa 5:25	Mountains quaked			
Isa 13.10, 14.12-13	Day Star, son of Dawn.	Isaiah	738-702	Venus?
Isa 24	Impending judgement of the Earth			Earth lies polluted under its inhabitants.
Isa 32	Government with justice predicted.			
Isa 38.7	Sun turns back			Shadow cast by the declining sun go back ten steps. Time reverses.
Isa 40.22, 26, 28	The Creator sits above the circle of the Earth			Looks down from the heavens and its inhabitants look like grasshoppers.
Isa 42.5	God created the heavens and stretched them out.			
Isa 45.12, 18-19	God created the heavens, and then formed the Earth. Did not create it in a chaos, but formed it to be inhabited.			
Isa 47.13	Consultations who study the heavens and the stars.			
Jer 31.35-37	Fixed order of the sun, moon stars et al.	Jeremiah	607-587	
Dan 8.10	Threw down stars from heaven and trampled upon them.			
Amos 5.8-9	God made Pleiades and Orion	Joel	800-600	Observes flow of clouds and rain.
Matthew 2.2, 7,9	Star of Bethlehem		80-90 C.E.	Several models have been proposed to explain the star

				alignments described accompanying Jesus birth (e.g. HYPERLINK "http://www.bethlehemstar.net/"http://www.bethlehemstar.net/). None of these, however, meet with general acceptance.
Matt 27:45	At noon, darkness came over the whole land; it lasted until 3 pm.	Not clear	80-90 C.E.	Also covered in the other three gospels. e.g. Mark 15:33 Suggests an eclipse.
Heb 1:2	... "through whom he also created the worlds."	Anonymous	60-95 CE	See also Heb 11:3
Heb 11:3	"By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared..."	Anonymous	60-95 CE	See also Heb 1:2