Doctrine of Biblical Cosmology

- I. **God eternally predates the creation of universe** (Pss. 90:2 "Before the mountains were born or you gave birth to the earth and the world. Even from everlasting to everlasting you are God."; 41:13 "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel. From everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen."; 93:2 "Your throne is established from of old. You are from everlasting."; 106:48 "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel. From everlasting even to everlasting. And let all the people say, "Amen." Praise the LORD!"; Hab. 1:12 "Are You not from everlasting, O LORD, my God, my Holy One?").
 - A. God who is light (1Jn. 1:5 "God is light") existed from eternity past in boundless space (I Kgs. 8:27 "But will God indeed dwell on earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You, how much less this house which I have built!").
 - B. He is self-perpetuating and self-sustaining (Acts 17:25 "nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives life to all and breath and all things.").
 - C. He eternally existed outside time (Isa. 43:13 "Even before time I am He. And there is no one who can deliver out of my hand, I act, and who can reverse it?").
 - D. The Son of God who is the Creator of all things preexisted all things (Jn. 1:1-3 In a beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in a beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being."; Col. 1:16 "For all things were created, in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him."; Heb. 11:3 "By faith we understand that the ages were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible."; Prov. 8:22-36; and Gen. 1:1 "In the beginning God...").
- II. The angelic hosts were the very first thing God the Son created (Job. 38:4-7 "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me if you have understanding. Who set its measurements? Since you know. Or who stretched the line on it? On what were its pedestals set? Or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for you?"; Ezek. 28:15 "You [Lucifer] were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you.").
- III. The creation of the throne room (3rd heaven), and the earth immediately below, came into existence next (Gen. 1:1 "In a beginning God created (Qal perf. bara) the heavens and the earth.").
 - A. At this juncture a physical throne was established and on that throne God the Father appeared in a finite form (Pss. 11:4a "The LORD is in His holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven."; 47:8 "God reigns over the nations. God sits on His holy throne."; 93:2 "Your throne is established from of old, You are from everlasting.";

- 103:19 "The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, And His sovereignty rules over all.; Heb. 8:1 "Now the main point in what has been said: we have a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of His [God the Father] in the heavens."; cf. 12:2; Rev. 4:2-6; 9; Isa. 14:13 "But you said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven, I will raise my throne above the stars of God, And I will sit on the mount of assembly, in recesses of the north.").
- B. This real estate could be measured using human measurements (cf. Rev. 21:17 "And he measured its (New Jerusalem) wall, one hundred and forty-four cubits (72 yards), *according to* human measurements, which are *also* angelic *measurements*.").
- C. Jesus referred to the 3rd heaven as "His Father's house" (Jn. 14:2 "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you, for I go to prepare a place for you.").
- D. Immediately below the throne room came the creation of the earth as indicted by the footstool reference (Isa. 66:1a "Thus says the LORD, 'Heaven is My throne and the earth is My footstool."; Matt. 5:35 "or by the earth, for it is His footstool of His feet...";).
- E. Footstools are always adjacent to and beneath a seat (2 Chron. 9:18 "And there were six steps and footstool of gold attached to the throne, and arrests on either side of the place of the seat, and two lions stood beside the armrests."; Jam. 2:3 "and you pay special attention to the one wearing the fine clothes, and say, 'You sit here in a good place,' and you say to the poor man, 'You sit over there, or sit down by my footstool.").
- F. The footstool imagery is used in connection with the Lord's judgments of His enemies as they are literally brought into His presence and are placed beneath His exalted person (Ps. 110:1; Lk. 20:43; Acts 2:35; Heb. 1:13; 10:13).
- - A. God did not create the earth in this condition according to Isa. 45:18 ("For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens and the earth who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it as waste place (*tohu*), but formed it to be inhabited (opposite of void). 'I am the LORD, and there is no one else'.").
 - B. Aside from rendering the earth desolate and void, the earth was locked in utter darkness which came as a result of fiat creation (Isa. 45:7 "The One forming light and creating darkness, Causing well-being and creating calamity: I am the LORD who does all these things.").

- C. We learn from the 3rd line in this verse that the earth was covered with water which is reinforced by what transpired on day 3 of the restoration process (cf. 1:9).
- D. In the history of the earth this constituted the first flood.
- E. The Spirit of God moving (or hovering/brooding) over the surface of the waters was to render the waters in a liquid form from an ice-pack.
- F. This conclusion is based on the use of the rare verb *rachap* and only occurs in the Piel stem (intensive) here and in Deut. 32:11 where an eagle "hovers" over its young.
- G. There was no light on the earth and so there was no heat.
- H. This set the stage for the six day restoration process.
- I. So far in these two opening verses of Genesis One the scene is strictly geocentric physically speaking!
- V. The restored earth received a dome/vault on day 2 of the restoration process (Gen. 1:6-8 Then God said, "Let there be an firmament in the midst of [between] the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters בֵּין בַּיִם לָבָיִם נּאֹמֵר אֱלֹהִים יִהִי רָקִיעַ בִּתוֹךְ הַפָּיִם וִיהִי מַבְדִּיל [waw w/Qal impf.3m.s. amar say + noun m.p.abs. Elohim + Qal impf.3m.s. hayah be, exist + noun m.s.abs. raqyia firmament based on the cognate verb raga meaning to stamp, stamp out, stretch out + prep beth w/noun m.s.contr. middle; midst + d.a.w/noun m.p.abs. mayim waters + waw w/Qal impf.3m.s. hayah be, exist; "let it" + Hiphil part.m.s.abs. badal separate + part bayin between; "from" + noun m.p.abs. mayim + prep lamed w/noun m.p.abs. mayim])." God made the firmament, and separated the waters which were below the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so אַשַׁר בַּוּעָל לָרָקִיעַ וַיִהִי־בֵּן וַיַּעַשׂ אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָרָקִיעַ וַיַּבְהֵל בֵּין הַמַּיִם אֲשֵׁר מִתַּחַת לָּרָקִיעַ וּבֵין הַמַּיִם [waw w/Oal impf.3m.s. ashah do, make, fashion, accomplish + noun m.p.abs. Elohim + d.o.w/d.a.w/noun m.s.abs. raqyia firmament + waw w/Hiphil impf.3m.s. badal separate + part bayin between + d.a.w/noun m.p.abs. mayim + rel.pro. asher which + prep min w/part. tachton below + prep lamed w/d.a.w/noun m.s.abs. raqvia firmament + waw w/part bayin between + d.a.w/noun m.p.abs. mayim + rel.pro. asher + prep min w/prepal "were above" + prep lamed w/noun m.s.abs. raqyia firmament + waw w/Qal impf.3m.s. hayah exist, be + adv. ken so]). God called the firmament heaven יוֹם שׁני וַיִּקרָא אֱלֹהִים לַרָקִיעַ שַׁמַיִם וַיִהִי־עֵרֶב וַיִהִי־בֹּקֵר [waw w/Qal impf.3m.s. qara call

+ noun m.p.abs. Elohim + prep lamed w/d.a.w/noun raqyia firmament + noun m.p.abs. shamayim heaven]). And there was evening and there was morning, a second day [day two] (waw w/Qal impf.3m.s. hayah "was" + noun m.s.abs. ebed evening + waw w/Qal impf.3m.s. hayah + noun m.s.abs. boqer morning + noun m.s.abs. yom day + adj.m.s.abs. shenayim two]).

- A. One each successive day of the six day restoration process a new feature(s) was added.
- B. Light was provided on day one (Gen. 1:3-5).
- C. On day 2 God decreed the existence of a "firmament" (Gen. 1:6-8).
- D. This noun (*raqyia*) occurs17x (Gen. 1:6, 7, 8 [3x], 14, 15, 17, 20; Pss. 19:2; 150:1; Ezek. 1:22, 23, 25, 26; 10:1; Dan. 12:3).
- E. The cognate verb (*raqa*) occurs 12x in 11 verses and means to stamp out/hammer out or to spread out (Ex. 39:3; Num. 17, 3, 4; 2 Sam. 22:43; Job 37:18; Ps. 136:6; Isa. 30:19; 42:5; 44:24; Jer. 10:9; Ezek. 6:11; 25:6).
- F. This firmament divides waters above it from waters (ocean) beneath it.
- G. The waters above the dome account for the forty days and nights of rain that commenced Noah's flood (Gen. 7:1; 8:2).
- H. This heavenly reservoir was not depleted according to Psa. 148:4 "And praise Him, highest heavens, And the waters that are above the heavens."
- I. How it is held in place above the firmament is unknown to us.
- J. It is named simply "heaven" (v. 8) and so the interpreter of Scripture must be aware of this when dealing with this plural noun.
- K. The designation of the three level heavens is as follows: (1) the realm from the surface of the earth past the stars to the dome; (2) the dome itself; (3) the throne room or 3rd heaven as it is designated in 2 Cor. 12:2 "I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know or out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a man was caught up to the third heaven."
- L. An intriguing verse dealing with the *raqyia* is found in Job 37:18: "Can you with Him, stamp out (hiphil) the skies, strong as a molten mirror?"
- M. Note Job 22:14b "He walks on the vault (*chug*) of heaven" (cf. Job 26:10 "He has inscribed a circle of the surface of the waters at the boundary of light and darkness (Anartica)."; Prov. 8:27 "When He established the heavens, I was there. When He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep.; Isa. 40:22 "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.").
- N. And, Amos 9:6 "The One who builds his upper chambers. And has formed His vaulted dome (*aguddah* 1x) over the earth. He who calls for the waters of the sea. And pours them out on the face of the earth. The LORD is His name."
- O. The sun (moon and stars) are located with the firmament according to Ps. 19:4 "Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their utterances to the end of the world. In them He has placed a tent for the sun."; also note Gen. 1:14, 17, 20).

- P. From Ezekiel we get an idea of what this dome is made of (Ezek. 1:22-23 "Now over the heads of the living beings there was something like a firmament, like the awesome gleam of crystal, spread out over their heads. Under the firmament the wings were spread out straight, on toward another, Each one had two which covered one side, and each one had two which covered the other side of the body.; 25-28 "And there came a voice from above the firmament that was over their heads, whenever they stood still, they dropped their wings. Now above the firmament that was over their heads there was something resembling a throne, like lapis lazuli in appearance (or sapphire), and on that which resembled a throne, was a figure with the appearance of a man."; 10:1 "Then I looked, in the firmament that was over their heads of the cherubim, something like a sapphire stone, in appearance resembling a throne, appeared above them."; Dan. 12:3 "Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the firmament of heaven, and those who lead the many in righteousness, like the stars forever.").
- Q. The waters above the dome explain why the sky is blue.
- R. The water vapor canopy theory is 'dead in the water!"

VI. The sun, moon, and stars were created on the 4th day (Wednesday) of restoration.

- A. The origin of the celestial realm is recorded in Gen. 1:14-16
- B. The date for restoration is 3954 BC based on a strict analysis of the Genesis genealogy for the antediluvian line of Messiah (Gen. 5).
- C. This is compatible with the 7000 year history of mankind.
- D. The luminaries were placed inside the firmament (Gen. 1:14 & 15; "Let there be lights in the firmament of heaven...", and restated in v. 15).
- E. Vegetation preceded the existence of the luminaries by one day (cf. Gen. 1:9-13).
- F. Nothing in modern science even remotely supports this!

VII. Features of the Earth:

- A. It is stationary (Pss. 93:1d "Indeed, the world is firmly established, it will not [cannot be) moved."; also at 96:10 & 1 Chron. 16:30).
- B. It has a dome over it (see point V above).
- C. It has foundations (Ps. 104:5 "He established the earth upon its foundations. So that it will not be moved forever and ever."; cf. Isa. 40:21; 51:13), which cannot be measured (Jer. 31:37 "Thus says the LORD, 'If the heavens above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out below, then I will cast off all the offspring of Israel, for all they have done."; Micah 6:2).
- D. It has pillars (1 Sam. 2:8 "He raised the poor from the dust. He lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with nobles, and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, and He set the world on them."; Job 9:6 "Who shakes the earth out of its place. And its pillars tremble."; Ps. 75:3 "The earth and all who dwell in it melt. It is I who have firmly set its pillars."
- E. It is suspended on nothing just beneath the throne room of heaven (Job 26:7 "He stretches out the north over empty space, and hangs the earth on nothing.").
- F. It's surface is circular and flat with an inscribed ice wall called Antarctica (Job 22:14 "Clouds are a hiding place for Him, so that He cannot see. And He walks on the vault of heaven."; 26:10 "He has inscribed a circle [chug circle never ball/sphere) on the face of the waters, at the boundary of light and darkness."; Prov. 8:27 "When He established the heavens, I was there. When He inscribed a circle on the face of the deep."; Isa. 40:22 "He who sits above [prep al] the circle of the earth, and all its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent (dome) to dwell in.").
- G. The earth is never described as a ball spinning and traveling in space; in fact the only mention of a 'ball' in Scripture is found in Isa. 22:18 ("And I will roll you tightly like a ball (noun is *dur* and not to be confused with *dor* generation).
- H. The earth has four corners (Isa. 11:12cd "And I will gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth..."; Rev. 7:1 "After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth..."; 20:8 "and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth (spheres do not have corners!), Gog and Magog."; cf. Acts 10:11; 11:5).
- I. Rev. 20:9 indicates that the earth is flat ("And they came upon the broad plane (*epi to platos*) of the earth...").

- J. The term *platos* is used in connection with the flat linear dimensions of the New Jerusalem (Rev. 21:16).
- K. Man does not know its dimensions (Job 38:18 "Have you understood the breadth of the earth? Tell *Me*, if you know."; Jer. 31:37 "Thus says the LORD, 'If the heavens above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out below, then I will cast off all the offspring of Israel, for all they have done."").
- L. In summation: the earth is flat, stationary, circular, over which is the sun, moon, and stars, along with foundations and pillars, hanging in space just beneath a water reservoir; and over it all is the throne room of God.
- M. Go on line and see pictures of clouds behind the sun!

VIII. The sun is in constant motion over the earth.

- A. Eccl. 1:4-7 makes it abundantly clear that just as water in rivers return to their "place" (makom) so the sun returns to its "place" (makom) on its circuit over the earth ("A generation goes and a generation comes. But the earth remains forever. Also, the sun rises and the sun sets; and hastening to its place it rises again. Blowing toward the 'south, then turning toward the north, the wind continues swirling around; And on it circular courses the wind returns. All the rivers flow to the sea, yet the sea is not full. To the place where the rivers flow, there they flow again.").
- B. Joshua commanded the sun and the moon to stand still (Josh. 10; especially note vv. 11-13 "Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, 'O sun, stand still at Gibeon, and moon, in the Valley of Aijalon.' So the sun stood still and the moon stopped, until the nation avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is it not written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day.").
- C. This type miracle also occurred in the day of Hezekiah, but with this twist: the sun stopped and went backward on Ahaz's sundial ten degrees (2 Kgs. 20:1-11).
- D. Did the earth stop spinning ad then spin backwards and then start spinning counterclockwise?
- IX. The Moon is a light unto itself (Gen. 1:16 "For God made two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night. *He made* the stars also."; Job 31:26 "If I have looked at the sun when it shone, or the moon going it its splendor."; Isa. 13:10 "For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not flash for their light. The sun will be dark when it rises, and the moon will not shed its light."; 1 Cor. 15:41 "There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.").
 - A. It, along with the sun is in constant motion over the earth.
 - B. The phases of the moon are the result of its mysterious makeup (perhaps Job 26:9 "He obscures the face of the full moon and spreads His cloud over it.").
 - C. The moon was established for seasons (Ps. 104:19 "He made the moon for seasons. The sun knows the place of its setting.").

- D. The moon is not dependent on the sun for its light according to: (Joel 2:31 "The sun will be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes."; Rev. 6:12 "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.").
- E. The moon radiates a different light than the sun (ex. moon-shade plants; also a digital heat detector registers a slightly warmer temperature in the shade of the moon than in direct moon light).

X. The Stars

- A. They were created on day four of restoration week (Gen. 1:14 "...He made the stars also.").
- B. There are two types of stars: those that are fixed (north star), and those that are in motion (cf. Jude 13 "wandering stars").
- C. The star of Bethlehem (known by its pagan name, Jupiter) and the bright and morning star (known as Venus) are not planets (for the latter see 2 Pet. 1:19; Rev. 2:29; 22:16).
- D. The OT indicates the size of the earth as compared to the celestial bodies as relatively small as they had to be of such a size as to fit within the dome.

XI. Scriptures that now make sense with this cosmology.

- A. Dan. 4:10-11: "Now *these were* the visions in my mind as *I lay* on my bed, I was looking, and behold, *there was* a tree in the midst of the earth and its height was great. The tree grew large and became strong. And its height reached to the sky. And it *was* visible to the end of the whole earth."
- B. Matt. 4:8: "Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory."
- C. Rev. 1:7: "BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen."
- D. Jn. 17:1 "Jesus spoke these things, and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said..."
- E. Isa. 13:10: "For the stars of heaven and their constellations will not shed their light. The sun will be dark when it rises, and the moon will not shed its light."
- F. Gen. 11:4-7: "They said, 'let us build a tower whose to *will reach* into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.' The LORD said, 'Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what began to do, and no nothing which they purpose to doe will be impossible for them. "Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another's speech.""
- G. Rev. 6:12: "I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, and the whole moon became like blood."
- H. Eccl. 1:5 "Also, the sun rises and the sun sets. And hastening to its **place** it rises there *again*."
- I. Rev. 1:7 "BEHOLD, HE IS COMING WITH CLOUDS, and every eye will see Him..."
- J. Isa. 66:1 "Thus says the LORD, 'Heaven is My throne and the earth is My footstool." (cf. Matt. 5:35).

XII. Characteristics of Earth 2:

- A. It is flat to accommodate the New Jerusalem (Rev. 21:16 "The city is laid out as a square, and its height is as great as the width; and he measured the city with a rod, fifteen hundred miles, its length and width and height are equal.").
- B. God's heavenly throne will be relocated on the new earth (Rev. 21:1-5; 22:1-3).
- C. The luminaries (sun, moon, stars) will not exist instead God's glory will provide constant light (Rev. 21:23; 22:5).
- D. There will be no oceans (Rev. 21:1 "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no sea.).

XIII. Scientism is unproven "science" that is theoretical and includes:

- A. Evolution in opposition to Gen. 1:20-31).
- B. Theory of gravitation not needed on a flat earth (it has never been proven as to its supposed source).
- C. Big bang theory in opposition to Gen. 1:1.
- D. Theory of relativity designed to nullify the Mickelson-Morley experiments demonstrating that the earth is not moving.

- E. Modern astrophysics contradicts the origin of the earth with its dome and the origin of the sun, moon, and stars.
- F. The god of this world has propagated these lies to discredit and invalidated God's word.
- G. Science (so-called) must no be allowed to take precedence over the clear statements of the WOG.

XIV. Some scientific facts that prove a flat non-rotating eath:

- A. Water cannot adhere to a spinning ball.
- B. Water cannot run uphill as in the case of the Nile River in Egypt.
- C. No adjustments have to be made by aircraft in flight due to curvature.
- D. Construction of railroads tracks and bridges do not factor in curvature in their blueprints.
- E. If the earth had curvature then an adjustment of 8 inches per mile squared (spherical trigonometry) would have to be taken into account during navigation of airplanes and submarines as well as construction of bridges, roads, etc.
- F. The Danyang-Kunshan Bridge in China was build in 2011 and is 102.4 miles (no curvature of the earth was taken into account by engineers).
- G. The horizon is always level; hence the expression sea-level.
- H. Likewise for the Suez Canal that is 120 miles long.
- I. With curvature there would be no such things as "plains."

XV. The leaders of the nations know the true nature of the earth with its dome and the location of the throne room.

- A. The aborted Tower of Babel designed to reach the 3rd heaven was with the full knowledge that that earth was flat and domed sitting just beneath the Throne of God (Gen. 11:1-8).
- B. Psalm 2 especially verse 2 indicates an awareness of who and what Jesus Christ is ("The kings of the earth take their stand. And the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD (God the Father) and against His Anointed (Jesus Christ), saying..."
- C. This all indicates collusion based on the fact that they know the truth about the nature of the earth all the while keeping the masses fooled.
- D. Why is the flat earth with its stylized ice wall featured on the United Nations flag?
- E. The rebellious spirit of the peoples at Babel is alive in the hearts of modern leaders.
- F. Satan is not content with spreading his lies; he desires to overthrow God's throne (Isa. 14:13 "But you said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven. I will raise my throne above the stars of God. And I will sit on the mount of the assembly in the recesses of the north.").
- G. The original poster for the European Union featured the famous painting of an unfinished Tower of Babel (by the Flemish artist Pieter Bruegel The Elder 1563) with a workmen with a hammers suggesting a modern attempt (It reads: "Europe: Many Tongues, One Voice.").
- H. Further, one of the buildings of the European Parliament in Strasbourg France (the Louise Weiss Building) includes one of the towers that appears to be unfinished mimicking the famous painting of Pieter Bruegel.

XVI. Some final Scriptures worth applying to this doctrine:

- A. Prov. 18:13 "He who gives an answer before he hears; it is folly and shame to him."
- B. 1 Thess. 5:21 "But examine everything; hold fast to that which is good."
- C. <u>2 Cor. 10:5</u> "We are destroying speculations and every lofty things raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ."
- D. <u>Eph. 6:12</u> "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*."
- E. Rom. 3:4 "May it never be! Let God be found true, though every man *be found* a liar, as it is written, 'THAT YOU MAY BE JUSTIFIED/VINDICATED IN YOUR WORDS, AND PREVAIL WHEN YOU ARE JUDGED.."
- F. Acts 17:10-12 "The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they went into the synagogue of the Jews. Now these were more nobleminded (*eugenes* open-minded) than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily *to see* whether these things were so."
- G. <u>Phil. 1:9-10</u> "And this I pray, that your love may abound still more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order that you may be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ."
- H. <u>1 Cor. 1:19-20</u> "For it is written, 'I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE.' Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the wise?"
- I. Eph. 4:14 "As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery (*kutheia* 1x) of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming."
- J. Acts 20:20, 27 "how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable..."; "For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God."
- K. 1 Cor. 1:27 "but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are strong."

END: Doctrine of Biblical Cosmology August 2019 Jack M. Ballinger