



Some Bible Knowledge is Critical.

Most of the critical scriptural "dots" really DO "connect" ...for those who learn how to study God's written word. But most believers learn only what to study ...to confirm denominational Doctrines. This series can help.

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God created our pretty planet a long, long time ago. Scientists don't know how long ago He did that. Religion experts don't have a clue, either. God's keeping that to himself.

Something else the experts must not know is that Earth was not a shapeless blob of melted rocks and gooey stuff in the beginning. It wasn't void, either. It was perfect. It had all the things it would ever need to support every form of life you can think of. God made it to last forever, too. It had mountains and valleys and rivers and streams and oceans and grass and trees and every kind of animal, bird and fish and dinosaur you can think of. It had insects and spiders. (Yeah, I know. I can't figure out why He had to put all those creepy, crawly and slimy things here, either.)

The earth rotates around the Sun with a 23.4° axis tilt today. But when God first made Earth it rotated, smoothly, on a perfect axis. What happened? Bet you didn't know that the Bible clearly says that God personally shook the earth violently ...and that He's going to shake it again. My Bible study partners and I agree with lots of other Bible scholars who're convinced that He'll shake it back to its original perfect alignment—like it was when He first made it. Some readers won't be surprised to learn that the dinosaurs and everything else died when God shook the earth off its perfect rotational axis.

Somebody asked me if I can prove all that and a lot of other fascinating things we have learned. Well, I can't but God can. He made sure to leave it all in writing for us, in the Bible. You just have to know where to find it. And it's some of the critical knowledge that you must have if the Bible "dots" are ever going to start connecting. That's why we're sharing all this.

When we of the **Link1**TM Bible Research Team first started learning what God's word really says about these things, we were astonished. We each knew what our respective denominations believed and that's what we believed, too. Some of us even became effective spokesmen for our churches' doctrines. Yes, we should've checked those doctrines out to make sure they were true. So why didn't we? Well, maybe that was for the same reason that you haven't really checked out what your denomination teaches. It's sad, but most believers will never get around to doing that. Mark Twain said it like this: "In religion and politics, people's beliefs and convictions are in almost every case gotten at second hand, and without examination."

The good news is that everyone in our Bible study group is now so excited about the things we're discovering in God's word that we just can't stop searching for more of it. Can't keep it to ourselves, either! Must share it with others who're anxious to learn, too! If you're one of those people, just let us know and we'll keep sharing. What we share with you should make discovering the original truth a lot easier for you than it has been for us. But, then, you may get really excited, too. If so, you'll be welcome to start helping us uncover even more of the original truth! God's gift of a sound mind would be a terrible thing to waste, you know:

- > "MY PEOPLE ARE DESTROYED FOR LACK OF [*righteousnes?*] [*sincerity?*] [*worship?*] [*faith?*] [*holiness?*] [*getting 'truly 'saved'?*] [*hyperspirituality?*] [*believing "what 'we' believe"?*] [*regular church attendance?*] KNOWLEDGE." —Hosea 4:6

Therein may be a once-in-a-lifetime platinum opportunity for you...and we pray that you'll choose to accept it: Why not invest time to compare – just compare – our discoveries to what your church teaches?

Thousands or even millions of years may have gone by between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. Although you may've heard differently, the Bible does NOT disagree with science on that. At verse two, Moses started telling us about the earth as it is now...after God shook it out of its perfect rotational alignment. Although Moses didn't tell us, there, about that really long time lapse, God made sure that we wouldn't be left *hanging* on that. The notes and scriptures, etc., marked by the red ✓s, below, should help you fill in the blanks:

- > "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." —Genesis 1:1
- ✓ He created it perfect, ready to support every life form we know of.

In this article, I'll share some of our conclusions about all this and some of the scriptures that have led us to them. Among the great tools that have also been really helpful to us are Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible and Smith's Bible Dictionary. We also consult the "interlinear texts." Those are *literal translations* from Hebrew and Greek into English.

> "And the earth was ^{H-1961} without form ^{H-8414}, and void ^{H-922}; and darkness [was] on the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." —Genesis 1:2

- ✓ We got curious when we noticed that "was" appears twice at Genesis 1:2. It helps to know that, in the KJV, when any word or phrase is NOT in the original manuscripts (in Hebrew or Greek), the KJV shows it either in brackets or in italics. That told us the KJV translators had added that second "was." So we looked up the original meaning of the first "was"—

Strong's H-1961 says the Hebrew word is "hayah." Strong's definition and the literal ("Interlinear") Bible translations told us that it should've been translated "became." That convinced us that God had created the earth perfect and ready to be inhabited and that something happened, later, to cause it to BECOME a shapeless blob of melted rocks and gooey stuff covered with water.

Still, though, we weren't *fully* convinced, so we kept looking for scriptures that might either confirm or refute our initial conclusion. The only related scriptures we were able to find CONFIRMED our initial conclusion. A few of them follow, below. But, first, we wanted to know the original Hebrew meanings of the KJV phrase, "without form," and the KJV word, "void," at Genesis 1:2. We were pleased to find out that the meanings are the same in English and in Hebrew. That helped!

- ✓ The phrase, "without form," is Strong's H-8414. The Hebrew word for it is "tohuw." The Hebrew word for Strong's H-922 (the KJV word, "void") is "bohuw." Be sure to keep those two words in mind as we explore some of the other scriptures that confirm these conclusions. Do that and you should understand quickly:
- ✓ This next scripture makes it clear that the earth, as at Genesis 1:2, BECAME null ^{H-8414}(**tohuw**) and void ^{H-922}(**bohuw**) for some reason after God had made it. The only sensible conclusion, then, is that God created the earth perfect. It was ready to be inhabited from the beginning! He did not create this planet in vain ^{H-8414}(tohuw) or void ^{H-922}(bohuw):

📖 ¹⁸"For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it NOT in vain ^{H-8414}[tohuw]; he formed it to be inhabited...I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain ^{H-8414}[tohuw]: ¹⁹ the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right." —Isaiah 45:18,19

In today's words that'd sound something like this: "When I create something I make it right the first time!"

- ✓ God's fierce anger – about *something* – caused the entire planet to become null and void. It BECAME a blob of melted rocks and other slimy and gooey stuff, completely covered in water and darkness. God had shaken it so hard that the ocean waters overflowed the whole planet. There was COMPLETE desolation. And the earth *still* rotates at 23.4° off its original perfect alignment!

📖 "I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger. For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate ^{H-8077}; yet will I not make a full end." —Jeremiah 4:25-27

How does that compare to what we know about Noah's flood and the story of the ark? In Noah's flood, neither the birds nor man completely perished: Noah and his family survived...with help from some birds. One of those birds even brought Noah a green leaf from a tree! Remember that? The scriptures make it really clear that this planet was not desolate ^{H-8077}(shēmamah) after Noah's flood.

- ✓ And here's more Bible evidence of some BIG differences between those two floods:

📖 "At thy rebuke they [the pre-Noah flood waters] fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hastened away." —Psalm 104:7

The waters of Noah's flood receded SLOWLY! Remember?

While it's true that lots of people and animals drowned in Noah's flood the earth did not perish, then: "The world that then was," of **2 Peter 3:6**, below, was NOT void ^{H-922}(bohuw) or in vain ^{H-8414}(tohuw). The only truly sensible conclusion is that Earth and the heavens are *much* older than the 6,000 years that some people claim. But it's still possible that people have been here in flesh bodies for just 6,000 years or so.

- ✓ Earlier, I mentioned that God created Earth to last forever. These are two of the scriptures that should confirm that for you:

📖 "...the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved." —Psalm 93:1

📖 "[Who] laid the foundations of the earth, [that] it should not be removed for ever." —Psalm 104:5

Take this to the bank, then: Men will NOT destroy our planet with a nuclear bomb or with anything else. Unless God were to change His mind and destroy it Himself, it's here to stay!

But, as surely as you're reading this, somebody's gonna tell you it's not true because Revelation 21:1 says there'll be a new heaven and a new earth. Just explain to them the best you can that, at Genesis 1:2, God created a new Earth, too; but it was still the same planet. (Caution: Not everyone will have "ears to hear.")

By now, you possibly know that Revelation 21:1 is talking about another demolition and renewal. That's like when you buy a nice used car: That used car is NEW, to you! Some people might compare it to starting off with a sledge hammer to remodel your house. After the remodeling work is finished, your house would be "new"...and it would still be at the same address.

- ✓ "The world that then was," of 2 Peter 3:6, was The First Earth Age. We're living in The Second Earth Age: "the heavens and the earth which are now" of **2 Peter 3:7**, below. The Third Earth Age will begin when God shakes our planet back to its original alignment on the first day of the Millennium. (For every Earth age there is a corresponding Heavens age.)

📖 "Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." —**2 Peter 3:6,7**

You may remember hearing that the apostle, Paul, was once "caught up" into *the third heaven*. That was The Third Earth Age—the heavens and the earth that are to come: "I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven." —2 Corinthians 12:2

I wonder if Paul might've been describing his out-of-body experience on that fateful road to Damascus...

- ✓ Soon after God shakes our planet back to its original alignment, The New Jerusalem (a.k.a. The Temple of God) of Revelation 21 will descend and Christ will begin His 1,000-year reign of righteousness—the first 1,000 years of The Third Earth Age:

📖 ²And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God [is] with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, [and be] their God. ⁴And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. ⁵And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new..." —Revelation 21:2-5

- ✓ Why don't most church people know about all this? The apostle, Peter, was troubled about that, too:

📖 "For this they [*i.e.: people who don't search for the scriptures that reveal the real truth about **this***] willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: " —2 Peter 3:5

- ✓ Peter continued by saying (in that same chapter) that his good friend, the apostle, Paul, had *tried* to teach people about **this** in his writings and preaching:

📖 "As also in all [his] epistles, speaking in them of **these** things; in which are some things hard [to] be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as [they do] also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction." —2 Peter 3:16

Let's review what the scriptures tell us about the ancient history of our planet and why there's no real evidence of disagreement between what the Bible says and what our scientists continue to discover:

- 1 Thousands or even millions of years probably passed between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. I think you'll agree that "the world that now is" is not perfect; but it's sufficient. Perfection comes again, later. (I can hardly wait! You?)
- 2 Our Earth was not a shapeless blob of melted rocks and gooey stuff covered in water in the beginning. And it wasn't "null and void," either. It was perfect. Later, it BECAME "null and void"...because *something* made God really, really angry.
- 3 Lots of church people think our planet is going to burn up into a cloud of ashes traveling through space or something. They must think that God's gonna make a brand new planet for all the good people to live on. The fact is that God made this planet to last forever. It isn't going to "go away."

- 4 Most of us place our faith in our denominations and in our preachers. Lots of us may just be afraid of the "Doubting Thomas" label or something—or maybe nobody has ever shared with us HOW to study the Bible to find and verify stuff like this. Anyhow, most of us just haven't gotten around to finding out if what people are teaching them is true or not true. Unfortunately, most of us will *never* get around to doing that. The Bible says that's really, really dangerous! On judgment day, nobody will *successfully* blame their ignorance on their preachers or their denominations, you know...
- 5 God's primary concern is NOT for his people to practice all the touchy-feeley "religious" stuff: He wants us to gain KNOWLEDGE. But, first, somebody has to be willing to help each of us learn HOW to do that—and then trust God for wisdom to know what to do with it after we get it.
- 6 There were two (2) Bible floods:
The first one was when the oceans overflowed the entire earth—as a result of Satan's attempted mutiny. That flood brought an end to life as it existed during the first earth age.
The second flood (the one we call Noah's flood) may well have been regional. It came about as a direct result of Satan's attempt to pollute the pure bloodline from Adam to Jesus...and our salvation. If God hadn't destroyed all the offspring of "the sons of God" with that flood, you can be pretty sure that Noah's descendants could not have resisted the temptation to mate with descendants of "the gods" for much longer. As an example, you'll recall that Noah's son, Ham, harbored a strong passion for sexual deviation.
- 7 The dinosaurs and many other long-extinct species perished when God shook the earth so violently at the end of The First Earth Age. We live in The Second Earth Age. The Third Earth Age will start on the day that God shakes our planet back to its original perfect rotational alignment, That's when the Revelation 21 Temple of God will descend and Jesus have begun His 1,000-year reign of righteousness.

In the next article we'll focus on the burning questions, "Who're the Jews?" Right now, you may be wondering why it's critical that you know that. Prepare for some very possible surprises!

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—a collaborative effort with several other members of our **Link1**[™] Bible Research Team

