

“THE FOOLISHNESS OF GOD IS WISER THAN MEN”
SCIENTIFIC FOREKNOWLEDGE IN SCRIPTURE

INTRODUCTION

A. 1st Corinthians 1:25

Although God is in no wise foolish, if there were a foolish aspect to His nature, it far exceeds the greatest wisdom of man. The greatest of human knowledge is ignorance and stupidity compared to His greatness.

B. Herein, we will consider the greatness of God’s wisdom as revealed by scientific foreknowledge in scripture. What science is just figuring out, the inspiration of God long ago revealed.

I. PHYSICS

A. Genesis 2:1-2; Hebrews 4:3

God’s work of creation has been finished since the beginning, but people believed in spontaneous generation until 1841 when Julius Robert von Mayer expressed the first law of thermodynamics, that “energy can be neither created nor destroyed”.

B. Psalm 102:25-26; Isaiah 51:6; Hebrews 1:10-11

In 1850, Rudolf Julius Emanuel Clausius articulated the second law of thermodynamics, also known as the Law of Entropy, which states that in all natural processes the usefulness of existing energy deteriorates. God said long ago that the world would wear out.

C. Hebrews 11:3

All things are made of sub-atomic particles that are invisible even with the use of the most advanced microscopes. Sub-atomic particles are still being discovered.

D. Genesis 1:1; 2nd Timothy 1:9; Titus 1:2

According to the word of God, time had a beginning, but scientists long believed that the universe is infinite. However, in 1992, a probe called the COsmic Background Explorer (COBE) proved that the universe is finite and had a definite beginning point.

II. BIOLOGY

A. **Leviticus 17:11-14**

"The life of the flesh is in the blood", yet well into the nineteenth century, blood-letting was a routine treatment for practically every major ailment and people often died as a result.

B. **Acts 17:25-26**

Karl Landsteiner was awarded the Nobel Prize for discovering, in 1900, that people of every race have the same base blood plasma, but the word of God acknowledged this much earlier.

C. **Genesis 2:17; 3:19**

God formed man from dust and stated that man would return to dust. 90% of household dust consists of dead human skin. In 1982 researchers at NASA's Ames Research Center confirmed the scriptural account by proving that every single element found in the human body exists within ordinary soil.

III. OCEANOGRAPHY

A. **Psalms 8:8; Isaiah 43:16**

Matthew Fontaine Maury established the Annapolis Naval Academy and is regarded as the father of oceanography. He charted the world's ocean currents in 1855 after this psalm was read to him.

B. **2nd Samuel 22:16; Job 38:16; Jonah 2:5-6**

Until about 1840, the ocean floor was thought to be more or less flat. Britain's 1872-1876 Challenger expedition marked the beginning of modern deep-sea exploration, finding one isolated depth of 4,500 fathoms (5½ miles). Until 2003, 71% of the earth was not accurately mapped, but the NOAA corrected that using advanced satellite technology.

C. **Genesis 7:11, 8:2; Job 38:16**

In the late 1970's, oceanographers with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute first saw and photographed a hydrothermal spring from the deep water submersible Alvin, but the existence of such springs was recorded much, much earlier.

IV. METEOROLOGY

A. **Job 36:27-28; Amos 5:8; 9:6; Ecclesiastes 1:7**

In 1676, Pierre Perrault and Edme Marriotte made a scientific breakthrough by describing the hydrologic cycle in detail, yet the details of evaporation, condensation, and precipitation are described in these ancient texts.

B. **Ecclesiastes 1:6**

The Jet Stream was discovered by airmen during World War II, but was written of in scripture much, much earlier.

C. **Job 28:25**

The notion that there is weight to wind is the basis of both barometry and aerodynamics, but it was not discovered until 1643 by Evangelista Torricelli.

V. ASTRONOMY

A. **Job 26:10; Proverbs 8:27; Isaiah 40:22**

Various cultures have had conceptions of a flat Earth, including ancient Babylon, Egypt, pre-Classical Greece and pre-seventeenth century China, yet its spherical nature is referred to repeatedly in scripture.

B. **Job 26:7**

Scripture records that God hangs the earth on nothing, which we know to be true scientifically, but the ancient Greeks believed the Titan Atlas held the earth on his shoulders and the Hindus believed it rested on the turtle Chukwa.

C. **Genesis 15:5; Hebrews 11:12; Psalm 147:4**

God knows each star by name, but man cannot count the total of them. However, Hipparchus claimed in 150 B.C. that there were less than 3,000 stars. Ptolemy, in 150 A.D., agreed with him. Not until the invention of the telescope in 1608 A.D. did

Galileo conclude that the stars are innumerable. People keep trying, though; as of six years ago, the estimate was up to 70 sextillion – that's the number 7 followed by 22 zeroes.

D. Job 38:7

Scripture teaches that stars emit sound, but radio astronomy was not discovered until 1933 by Karl Guthe Jansky.

CONCLUSION

A. Romans 1:20

The existence of our invisible God is evident through what He has made.

B. Colossians 1:16-17

Jesus is the one who made it all and holds it all together. Do you know Him?