

## Scientific Mysteries, Part 2

### Commentary for December 1, 2009 — Water in Space

Water is the liquid of life. Without water little on earth can survive. Water is abundant on earth in a subtle and delicate balance that our Creator has arranged for our survival and benefit.

Before the flood during the time of Noah the amount of water on earth was different. This was because a substantial portion of the water in the oceans, lakes, rivers, and atmosphere of the world today was in space before the flood.

This is the subject of this month's presentation of Dr. Ernest L. Martin titled "The Bible and Scientific Mysteries, Part 2," which deals with the flood of Noah. Read first the "[December 2009 Newsletter](#)" for introductory and background information about this article.

### *A New Saturn Ring Discovered*

In October 2009 the Jet Propulsion Laboratory issued a press announcement: "[NASA Space Telescope Discovers Largest Ring Around Saturn](#)."<sup>1</sup> The ring was shown in an artist's rendering to the right:

The size of Saturn relative to the ring is shown by the small dot in the center of the ring, at the end of the line from the blowup of Saturn in the "insert." Although the particles of ice and dust that form the ring are far apart, the amount of water contained within the huge ring would be many times the mass of the earth. The ring begins 3.7 million miles from the surface of Saturn and extends some 7.4 million miles.

The ring is invisible to the naked eye and to all but the new Spitzer space telescope which is currently in earth orbit (in addition to the better known Hubble space telescope). If it were visible from earth, this ring would be the diameter of two full moons in size, side by side. The press announcement stated:

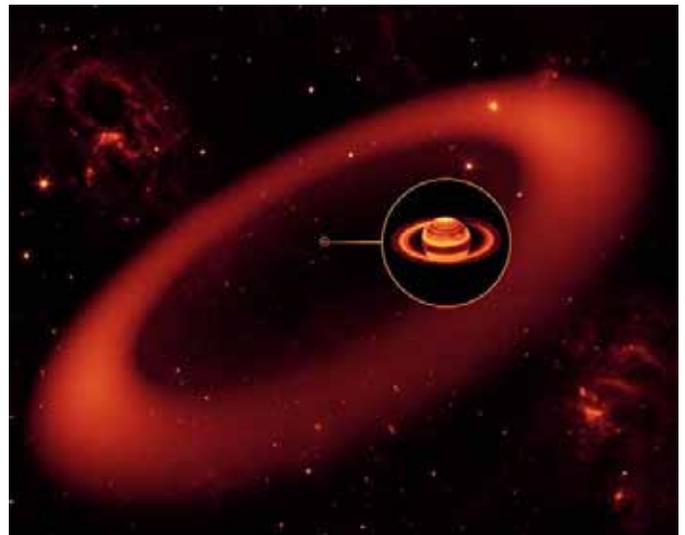
**"The ring itself is tenuous, made up of a thin array of ice and dust particles. Spitzer's infrared eyes were able to spot the glow of the band's cool dust. The telescope, launched in 2003, is currently 107 million kilometers (66 million miles) from Earth in orbit around the sun."**

**• *Largest Ring Around Saturn***

This adds to other recent discoveries of water in our solar system. There have been previously announced discoveries of water on the moon, on Mars, and on some of Saturn's moons. This new information of the Saturn ice and dust ring is in line with Dr. Martin's biblical data in the original taped presentation back in 1994 (presented in print as this month's article) that the earth also had a ring around it. Much of the water for the flood came from that ice ring.

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1. See the short Spitzer Space Telescope video "[Saturn Family Tour](#)," accessed November 2009.



The secrets of God's creation are slowly being discovered by science:

**"The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world."**

• *Psalm 19:1–4, Revised Standard Version*

God knows what is in the darkness of space, things invisible to us until we enhance our sight to see. Through technology we have enhanced our ability to know about the new huge ring of water and dust, in addition to the more massive smaller rings closer to Saturn.

**"Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever [for the age and beyond]: for wisdom and might are his: And he changes the times and the seasons: he removes kings, and sets up kings: he gives wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He reveals the deep and secret [mysterious] things: he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him."**

• *Daniel 2:20-22*

Certainly with the flood of Noah **"the times and the seasons"** were changed. This was made clear in Genesis, as you will read. Not only does God have the ability and the right to change times and seasons, He shall do so again in the future with the heavens and the earth (Hebrews 1:11–12), which will change times and seasons (Isaiah 60:19–20, Revelation 7:16).

### **Star of Bethlehem "Video" Confusion**

Some have contacted us saying that the MSNBC video about the birth star does not give proper credit to Dr. Martin, and there is confusion about this. Upon investigation we found that the MSNBC/Griffith video production on the MSNBC Mysteries of the Universe site changed the article accompanying the video presentation that has been on their site for at least 9 years. Perhaps they do that every year or few years. Whatever the case, the accompanying article features an astronomer from Australia who posits the date of Christ's birth at 2 BC in June.

The article contradicts the video. The video appears to be almost the same, including giving credit to Dr. Martin. The links have been changed and reduced in number from five to four on their video links page. Only one of those four links is current. We have retained the original presentation on the ASK website (with permission from MSNBC), click on: "[What Was the Original Star of Bethlehem.](#)" When you hit "next" two times, you will see that Dr. Ernest Martin's work *The Star that Astonished the World* is acknowledged as the major source of the visual presentation. Unfortunately four out of the five links for the old video do not work, and the one link that works has nothing to do with the star of Bethlehem.

In recent years fewer and fewer planetariums show any star of Bethlehem presentation. Griffith Planetarium in Los Angeles no longer does, and from their website you would not know they ever had a star of Bethlehem show. Griffith recently completed a multi-million dollar renovation and there is no star of Bethlehem show on their program list this year.

It was a surprise to see that [Adler Planetarium in Chicago](#) will give their "Star of Wonder" presentation through January 3, 2010 for one last season, after which they will retire that planetarium show. Check your localities and universities for planetarium shows and take note if they present any of Dr. Martin's evidence from his book *The Star that Astonished the World*.

Enjoy and learn from this month's article about Noah's flood. As we approach the time of Christ's return, God is revealing Himself slowly, step by step, demonstrating His existence until the entire world acknowledges Him.

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