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## THE DAY OF THE LORD

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*"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night..."*  
(2 Pet 3:10)

What does the Bible tell us about *"the day of the Lord?"*

*"Howl ye; for the day of the Lord is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the almighty" (Isa. 13:6).*

*"Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger; to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it" (Isa. 13:9)..*

In the two verses above, *"the day of the Lord"* indicates God coming in judgment.

*"For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine" (Isa 13:10)*

The verse above uses "apocalyptic language" of cosmic disturbances which accompanies God coming in judgment. This portion of Scripture is describing *"the day of the Lord"* when He brought judgment on Babylon (see verse one) by using the Medes to punish her in 539 BC for her wickedness and iniquity.

Ezekiel 30:3 contains *"the day of the Lord."*

It is about Egypt being destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon in the mid-6th century BC.

Verse six describes the judgment to befall Egypt.

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Joel 2:1 speaks of "*the day of the Lord.*"

Joel 1:6ff describes the judgment brought by this "*day of the Lord.*"

All of this "apocalyptic language" points to the downfall of the rulers at the time that the invaders used by God to bring judgment commenced their invasion. In Joel 2:11, God even calls this particular army HIS army!

Read Joel 2:28-31.

Here God is saying He would pour out His Spirit "...*before the great and the terrible day of the Lord...*" (Joel 2:31).

This event was confirmed by Peter on the Day of Pentecost when he said Joel's prophecy was fulfilled in their day (Acts 2:16-20).

Therefore, we know that "*the day of the Lord*" was to follow Pentecost which it did approximately forty years later in the siege and destruction of Jerusalem!

Also note the cosmic disturbances mentioned in Joel 2:30-31, and in Acts 2:19-20 and how closely they are aligned with Matthew 24:29!

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## **THE LAW - FULFILLED, BUT STILL HERE!**

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**THE LAW**

**Not kept**

**SIN!**

*"...both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin"*  
(Rom. 3:9)

**The wages of sin is death (Rom. 6:23).**

**Paul said: "... [he] *had not known sin, but by the law*"**  
(Rom.7:7)

**BUT!**

*"Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us..."* (Gal. 3:13).

*"Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good"* (Rom. 7:12).

**By being in Christ we are no longer under the curse of the law because He fulfilled it! (Mt. 22:37-40)**

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## SOME OF THE THINGS JESUS SAID ABOUT HEAVEN & EARTH

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*"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled" (Mt. 5:17-18).*

- 📖 Jesus did not come to destroy the
- 📖 Jesus came to fulfill the law.
- 📖 Not one speck of the law would be fulfilled until heaven and earth passed away!

If Scripture at some point tells us that the law has been fulfilled by Christ, then we must conclude that heaven and earth, as referred to by Christ in the above passage, must have passed away!

*"Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances...so making peace" (Eph. 2:15).*

*"Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross..." (Col.2:14).*

*"...for ye are not under the law, but under grace" (Rom.6:14).*

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## SOME OF THE THINGS JESUS SAID ABOUT HEAVEN & EARTH

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*"...ye are not under the law" (Gal. 5:18).*

- 📖 CONCLUSION: From the above passages it is reasonable to conclude that Jesus fulfilled the law.
- 📖 Since the law is fulfilled, heaven and earth had to have passed away!
- 📖 Since we know that the physical heaven and earth did not pass away, it is obvious that the expression "*heaven and earth*" as used by Jesus must mean something other than what we normally think it to be.

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## BIBLICAL USES OF "HEAVEN & EARTH"

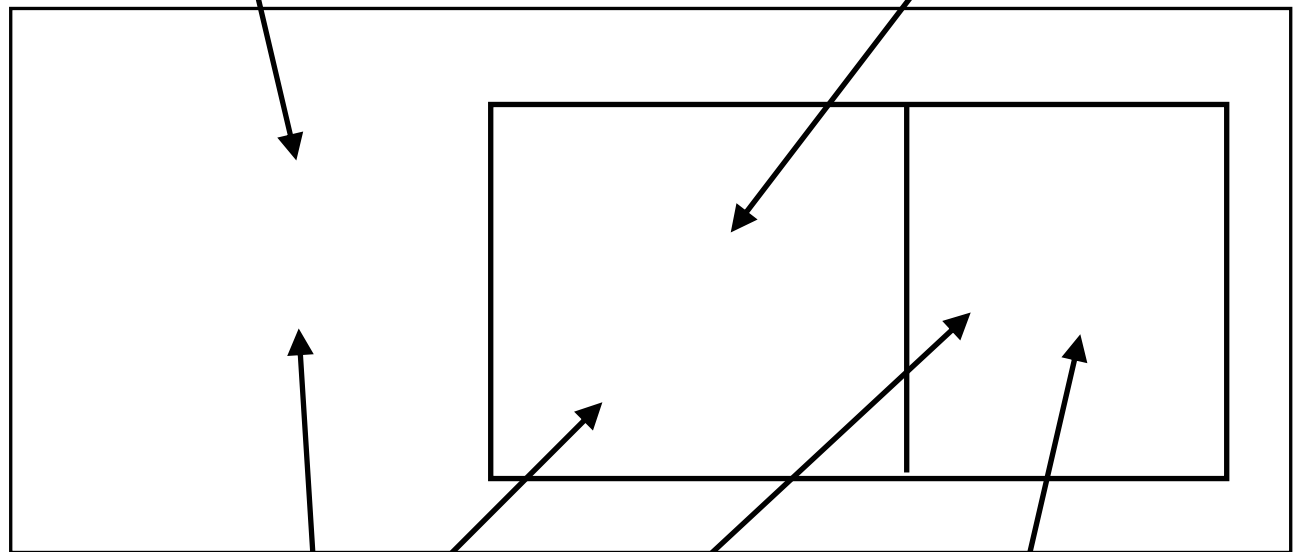
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**LITERAL:** Genesis, Chapter One speaks of a literal creation of "heaven & earth."

### A JEWISH FIGURATIVE UNDERSTANDING:

**Outer Court - Altar of burnt offerings, bronze laver. A place of common access.**

**Holy Place - Golden candlestick, altar of incense, table of showbread. Access by priests.**



**"an imitation of the system of the world," the land/sea**

**Holy of Holies - Ark of the covenant. High priest once a year.**

**"A heaven peculiar to God"**

**Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews:  
Book 3, Ch.6, Para.4, Lines 122-126.  
Book 3, Ch.7, Para.7, Lines 180-183.**

Figure 39A

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## BIBLICAL USES OF "HEAVEN & EARTH"

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### FIGURATIVE USE BY JESUS:

Sitting on the Mount of Olives across the Kidron Valley from the Temple He said:

*"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Mt. 24:35).*

*"Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away" (Lk. 21:33).*

Jesus was referring to the passing away of the Old Covenant with the Jewish Temple system of religious rituals and ordinances which was the center of the Jewish system of life which event would take place in AD 70 when the city of Jerusalem, the Temple, and the Jewish system of religion was destroyed by Titus and the Roman army!