



# HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL PASS AWAY

2 Peter 3:10-13



# HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL PASS AWAY

The Bible teaches an end to this physical universe... indirectly

*“While the earth **remains**, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.” (Gen. 8:22)*

- *“As long as the earth endures...” (NIV)*
- *“During all days of the earth...” (YLT)*
- *“While the earth continues to exist...” (NET Bible)*
- *“remains” is a derivative of the Hebrew word “yom”*
  - Yom - day, opposed to night... the day is still high, not near its end, until the declining of the day, the day hath sunk down to become evening [BDB]
- **This earth will end, as surely as day fades into night...**

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**The Bible teaches an end to this physical universe... indirectly**

*“as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are **transient**, but the things that are unseen are eternal.” (2 Cor. 4:18)*

- “temporary” (NIV)
- “will soon be gone” (NLT)
- “just brief and fleeting” (AMP)
- transient – “enduring only for a while” [Thayer]

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**The Bible teaches an end to this physical universe... indirectly**

*“And “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will **perish**, but you remain; they will all **wear out** like a garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be **changed**. But you are the same, and your years will have no end.” (Heb. 1:10-12)*

- *perish* – implies *permanent* (absolute) destruction [HELPS Word-studies]
- *wear out* – **Usage:** I make old, declare obsolete [Strong’s]
- But wait... it says, *“they will be changed”*?
  - *“changed”* just like a worn-out garment is removed, rolled up and discarded when you “change” into a new one...

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## Jesus teaches an end to this physical universe... indirectly

*“For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth **pass away**, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.” (Mt. 5:18)*

- *pass away*- “metaphorically, to pass away, perish” [Thayer]
- “to come to an end, **disappear**” [BAGD]
- *“For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear...”* (NIV)

## Jesus teaches an end to this physical universe... directly

*“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.”*  
(Mt. 24:35)

- *“Heaven and earth will disappear...”* (NLT, God’s Word, ISV)

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**John revealed it in his apocalyptic vision...**

*“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth **had passed away**, and the sea was no more.” (Rev. 21:1)*



# HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL PASS AWAY

**Peter teaches an end to this physical universe... emphatically**

*“But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will **pass away** with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be **exposed.**” (2 Pet. 3:10)*

- *“both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”* (KJV)
- *“... be burned up”* (KJV, NKJV, ASV, NASB 77, NASB 95, AMP, ERV, YLT)
- A “textual variation”
  - There is manuscript evidence for two different Greek words



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“The Jehovah’s Witnesses and some contemporary Bible scholars argue that the English translation “will be found,” “discovered,” or “laid bare” in verse 10 is better than “burned up.” They say the ancient manuscript evidence is better for... “exposed” [ESV]... than for “burned up” [KJV, NKJV, ASV, NASV, RSV, etc.].

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(Chris Reeves)

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*10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will **pass away with a roar**, and the heavenly bodies **will be burned up and dissolved**, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be **exposed**.*

*11 Since all these things are thus to be **dissolved**, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, **12** waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be **set on fire and dissolved**, and the heavenly bodies will **melt** as they **burn**! **13** But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.*

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7 But by the same word *the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.*



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- translated - “*exposed*” (ESV), “*disclose*” (CSB), “*laid bare*” (NIV)
- defined - “**shall be found** namely, for destruction, i. e. will be unable to hide themselves from the doom decreed them by God, **2 Peter 3:10.**” [Thayer]
- “*found to deserve judgment*” (NLT)...
- or... “*will not be found.*” (BLB, LSV, NA28\*) **WHY NOT?**
- **Because... heaven and earth will pass away, will be burned up, and dissolved, will be set on fire, and will melt as they burn.**

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