

This is what God did: He stretched out the heavens. I note the remarkable fact that about 2/3 of the time Isaiah uses this he doesn't say God has stretched out the heavens. He uses the principle--God is stretching out the heavens.

People didn't pay much attention to that particularly matter until recently. In fact I've never heard any body else refer to it but I notice that in the Hebrew as a fact. In looking into the history of astronomy we find that about 40 years ago in one of the great observatories, they found that the spectrum of the stars had what they called the red shift in it. This red shift occurs from something moving away from you. Today it is believed by all astronomers that the universe is like a little balloon on which there are figures or pictures. As you blow up the balloon every part of it on the outside gets further away from the other parts. Thus they say that the whole universe is moving out and moving away.

Here the Bible says God is the one who is stretching out the heavens. Just a little hint of that which science only discovered in recent years.

There are many evidences of the historicity and dependability of the Bible in history. I would like to call your attention now to another type of evidence. God made predictions about the future. Many of these predictions are denunciations. ~~Waxxon~~ Denunciations of wicked nations or of wicked people. There's a similarity to many of them. This nation is going to be destroyed. These people are going to be scattered. That sort of thing is told about many of them. Of course thru history nation after nation has been destroyed. Occasionally we find specific statements made, and a very interesting type of that is found in Ezekiel 30.

Unfortunately in the translation in our English version, the precise letters of the Hebrew were transliterated. Instead of being written in the terminology we use today. In fact everyone agrees on exactly what this meant. I would call your attention to vv. 13-16. "Thus saith the Lord God, I will also destroy the images and the idols and cause the images to cease from Noph." All scholars agree that that is Memphis and all recent translations simply put in that because that is what is meant. The city to which the Greeks used the name Memphis. Noph is an abbreviation of it here.

"To cease from Memphis. And I will no more ==there shall no more be a prince of the land . . . I will put fear in the land of Egypt. I will make desolate and set fire to and I will judgment from and No. No is an ancient term for the city of Thebes. In these vv. he says He will execute judgment in Thebes. In the next v., "I will cut off the multitude from Thebes. In the next v. "Thebes will be rent assunder." But the strange thing said about Memphis is; "I will destroy the idols and cause the images to cease from Memphis." Why did God cause Ezekiel to say that about Memphis and not say it about Thebes? Well, it does not correspond to the situation in Thebes today. Thebes was rent assunder. The city was destroyed.