

NASA & The Bible

Today, many claim that *The Bible* is just a book of myths and legends.

However, Harold Hill, a consultant in the U.S. space program, who works with NASA's scientific authorities and experts--- [astronomers, astrophysicists, space scientists, *et al*, many of whom are atheists or agnostics], relates the following incident which occurred the NASA Goddard Space Center in Greenbelt, Maryland several years ago. Put in simple layman's language, the story goes as follows:

The NASA space exploration projects require precision and exactness [and keeping in mind that it costs millions, even billions, of US dollars]. A man-made satellite's orbit has to be precisely laid out [in terms of its life span], and in relation to where the planets will be in order to avoid any accidents or collisions which will cause the NASA project to fail in any way.

The exact positions of the sun, moon, and other planets in relation to the Earth and the satellite in 100 years and 1,000 years into the future have to be accurately determined. No NASA satellite can be launched from Earth only have it "bump into something" later on as it orbits in space.

There was one specific incident which occurred in which the NASA computer came to a complete halt while computer measurements back and forth over the centuries were being done, and a "red signal light" came up, which meant that there was *something wrong* with either the information fed into it or with the computed results compared to the "standards".

First, the Technical Service Department was called to make sure that there was nothing mechanical wrong with the hardware. After a thorough check was made, and it was determined that there was absolutely nothing wrong with the computer mechanically, the big question which remained was: ***What could be wrong now?***

According to the computer, there were 24 hours *missing* **which have to be accounted for; it is absolutely imperative that every second and minute of time is accounted for** in terms of space exploration!

The NASA scientific authorities and experts scratched their heads and tore their hair out, but could not account for the "*lost time*", but **the puzzle regarding the missing 24 hours had to be solved!**

After what seemed to be an unsolvable mystery, a member of the team [who was an apparent "*Christian believer amidst atheists and infidels*"] finally said, 'You know what? There was one time during Sunday School in the church I attend that there was mention of *the sun standing still*.'

Of course, the cynical atheists and agnostics in the group looked at the fellow oddly and couldn't believe what they just heard. Anyhow, "just for fun", they asked him to show them the exact place in *The Bible* where this supposed phenomenon is written.

A copy of *The Bible* was brought in, and the "oddball" team member turned to the book of Joshua, where it says that Joshua asked God for help, and "**....*So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hastened not to go down about a whole day....***" (Joshua 10:13)

The unbelieving astronauts and scientists then said (whether in jest or in seriousness, one can't say), "There is the missing day!"

And to their astonishment, when the data was fed to the computer going back into the time in history when the phenomenon occurred [as it was written in Joshua], the incredulous bunch was astonished that the NASA computer spouted out the data, that the elapsed time in Joshua's day was 23 hours and 20 minutes! But 40 minutes were still missing. The 40 minutes, if not fully accounted for could still mean "trouble 100 or 1,000 years later on" [in Earth's time]. Forty minutes have to still be found and fully accounted for!

Again, the [Christian] "oddball" scientist thought about it, and then again, he remembered somewhere in *The Bible* where it says that the sun went backwards.

The other scientists told him he was out of his mind, but once again, they got out *The Bible*, and read the words in 2 Kings 20:9-11 which tells the story of King Hezekiah of Israel, who, while in his death bed, called for and was visited by a man named Isaiah, a prophet, who told the king that he was not going to die. The king then asked for a "sign" that what the prophet said was true. Isaiah asked Hezekiah if he wanted the sun to go forward ten degrees.

Hezekiah replied, 'It is nothing for the sun to go forward 10 degrees, but let the [sun's] shadow return backward 10 degrees.'

And Isaiah spoke to the Lord, and the Lord brought the sun's shadow backward ten degrees!

Again, when the information was fed to the NASA computer, to the group's surprise, according to the computer's calculations, the ten degrees was equivalent to exactly 40 minutes!

And so, the 23 hours and 20 minutes in Joshua's time plus 40 minutes in Hezekiah's time accounted for exactly the "missing 24 hours"---believe it or not!

References: *Joshua 10:8-13*; *2 Kings 20:9-11* (KJVersion).

Joshua 10:8-13 * The LORD said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you." * After an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua took them by surprise. ¹⁰ The LORD threw them into confusion before Israel, so Joshua and the Israelites defeated them completely at Gibeon. Israel pursued them along the road going up to Beth Horon and cut them down all the way to Azekah and Makkedah. ¹¹ As they fled before Israel on the road down from Beth Horon to Azekah, the LORD hurled large hailstones down on them, and more of them died from the hail than were killed by the swords of the Israelites. ¹² On the day the LORD gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the LORD in the presence of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and you, moon, over the Valley of Aijalon." ¹³ So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on^[b] its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day.

2 Kings 20:9-11 * Isaiah answered, "This is the LORD's sign to you that the LORD will do what he has promised: Shall the shadow go forward ten steps, or shall it go back ten steps?" ¹⁰ "It is a simple matter for the shadow to go forward ten steps," said Hezekiah. "Rather, have it go back ten steps." ¹¹ Then the prophet Isaiah called on the LORD, and the LORD made the shadow go back the ten steps it had gone down on the stairway of Ahaz.