



# The Tri-Cities Edifier

Volume 11

November 16, 2025

No. 46

## Stars in the Heavens

Joe Greer

God's signature is written all over the sky. The Psalmist said it beautifully when he spoke of God, saying, **"When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place, what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You care for him?"** (Psalm 8:3-4) The wonders and beauty of creation are like a book without words but filled with pictures of God's design. A book that everyone can read and understand because it needs no translation. The heavens speak for themselves and declare the truth of an awesome Creator.

The universe itself declares there must be a Designer. The order of nature's laws says someone ordained them. It is not as perplexing as some have made it out to be, but simply stated, **"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."** (Genesis 1:1) There is no detail overlooked. And God's place in creation is unmistakable – that is, we cannot miss it – unless we choose to. **"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so they are without excuse ..."** (Romans 1:20)

When God spoke through the prophet Isaiah to the discouraged people of Israel, He knew they were being taken into Babylonian captivity. God gave them assurance that they were not forgotten and confirmed how He remembered each one. And what would be a reminder to them of this promise? **"To whom will you compare me? Or who is My equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of His great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing."** (Isaiah 40:25-26)

Amazing. The stars in the sky are innumerable, yet our heavenly Father knows each one ... just like He knows everyone of us. **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."** (John 3:16) Though we have a great problem with sin, God loved us enough to offer a solution that is greater. His grace and mercy overflowed when He provided Jesus as His sacrifice for the sins of man. The One powerful enough to create the expanse of all things and set the world in motion has not forgotten even one of us ... just like He has not forgotten the name to even one star, whether big or small ... and I am blessed by the assurance that He remembers every one ... even me.

Dear God, the Almighty Maker and Creator of all things: Thank you for visible reminders of Your power and might ... and the confirmation of Your love as it is seen in the expanse of all creation, and how you remember every star by name ... and thank you, dear Father, for remembering me.

## The Prescription for Growth

- by Jim Mickells

We are all fully aware that as Christians we are to grow spiritually. There are several passages that clearly teach that God not only expects but also requires such development. "As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:2). "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). "For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food" (Hebrews 5:12).

Let me suggest to you a few things that are needed in our lives if we are to grow and develop as God commands:

1) There has to be a desire on our part. Look once again at I Peter 2:2. The writer says that you must desire the pure milk of the word. In the sermon on the mount, the Lord said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6). We have to want to grow! It is not going to happen unless there is that hunger and thirst within us for the things that will help us to progress. One thing that has happened to far too many Christians, they have lost their spiritual appetite. They have become choked with the cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and as the Lord said, "bring no fruit to maturity" (Luke 8:14).

2) It also takes time. When the Psalmist spoke of the man blessed, in Psalms 1:1-2, notice how he spent his time. "But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night." We usually make time for the things that we enjoy doing, whether it is fishing, golf or shopping, etc. If we really have the desire to grow, we will find time to study, pray and practice the truth in our daily lives. It may mean that we've got to turn off the TV, not read the Newspaper as thoroughly, or take some time from a hobby that we enjoy. But we will find time and use it to the glory of God. Listen to the words of the apostle Paul, "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:16).

3) Effort has to be put forth. Certainly the word of God is that which will build us up and make us stronger. Paul in speaking with the elders from Ephesus, said, "So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified" (Acts 20:32). Not only does it take time to know and understand the word of God; it takes effort as well. This same apostle told Timothy, "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). The word "diligent" (KJ says study), is defined as "to hasten to do a thing, to exert oneself, endeavour, give diligence" (Vine's Expository Dictionary Of New testament Words). Those who are growing in the grace and knowledge of the Lord, take the time and exert the effort and energy to ascertain the meaning of the Scriptures. Practice is the next logical step. Only by doing can we please God (James 1:22,23,25).

4) It will require using some of our money. To be a good fisherman one will buy a good rod and reel, tackle, and maybe a boat along with all the accessories. Don't mind spending the money for these kinds of things. To be knowledgeable of the word of God, we will need a good study Bible, a concordance, a good Bible dictionary, maybe some reliable commentaries, etc. Are we willing to spend money on these type books to help us in our studies? If you really have the desire, will take the time and put forth the effort, you won't mind spending the small amount it would take to buy these study helps.

Want to grow as the Lord commands? Follow this prescription! The Beacon – Electronic 11/4/25