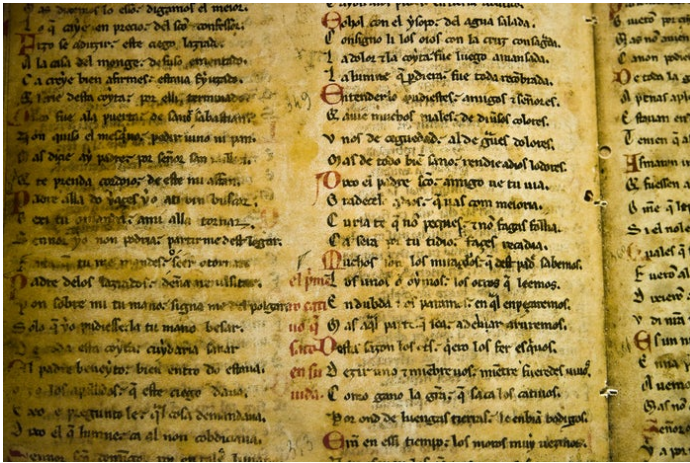


Back Trekking

Before trekking forward, let's do a little review of the Truth, because that is what we are searching for. Do we really live inside a big dome that is connected to our non-moving Earth? What is the firmament? What did the ancient people believe? Why was the dome created? What is at the ends of the Earth? What about the sun, moon, and planets? Why are we here on this Earth? Who is keeping this information a secret?

What is truth? To the Ancient Greeks, truth was “revealing or bringing to light something that was previously hidden.” To Roman's it was *veritas*, or rightness. So we can say that truth means being in agreement with fact or reality. It is the opposite of falsehood. To find the truth, you must explore, not simply believe what you hear or read.

Some *philosophers* relate truth to the Christian faith; the belief that God is Truth and that Truth (with a capital “T”) is Divine. For those that believe in the Most High, Creator, Lord God; much support can be found in the Holy Scriptures, where we read: *you can know the Truth and the Truth will set you free*. God is full of Truth and His Truth lasts to all generations. His path is Truth and He will guide you into all truth. His Truth lasts forever. And, He promises that if you search for Truth, you will find it. (John 8:32, Psalms 33:4, Psalms 10:4, John 16:13, Psalms 25:10, Psalms 86:15, Psalms 146:6, Proverbs 12:19, John 14:6, Deuteronomy 13:14)



A Word About Extra-Biblical Texts

To find Truth, there is no better way than to look at, and study the subject from all possible points of view. This gives a fuller understanding and insight into what others have learned during our own time, as well as what was learned during older time periods, across different *cultures* and languages.

When attempting to find the Truth about something, it is good to explore all possibilities. Many have tested this method and found it to be true when seeking to solve a problem, or trying to gain better understanding of a subject.

It is also important to put aside personal judgements upon the matter when beginning to look at how to solve a problem. This is very much like solving a crime. The detectives rope off the scene and gather every bit of evidence to analyze how it is related to the crime committed. They will collect eyewitness accounts to form a timeline of how they believe the events truly happened.

The evidence is joined with the eye witness accounts to solve the crime. This method has proven to be successful whether in solving a crime or in judging a large body of work such as we have done in this book.

When trying to figure out the full meaning of some Biblical concept, it is important to also study extra-Biblical material to expand upon the foundation of truths stated in the Bible *canon*.

Themes and ideas have been lost over time are no longer understood in the way they were explained thousands of years ago. We can benefit from the early scriptures and commentaries which were written by the early Hebrew forefathers and others. Study of them can be key when trying to understand these ancient peoples' views. As we look into our ancient past, we see a window into the early beliefs which shaped and formed the minds of those who wrote and put together the Bible that we have.



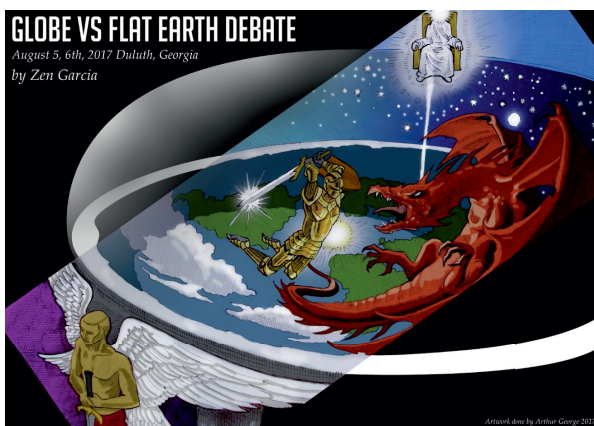
Directly related to this book you are holding, it is important to know what has been lost. In the last 500 years, modern humanity has believed and accepted the current view that the sun is the center of our *solar* system, with the Earth

spinning every day as it orbits around the sun. As you will find out, should you continue reading, this thinking is false.

Of special note are the Targums, being older than the King James Version of the scriptures by 900 to 1500 years. They are one of the purest forms of scriptures which we can find. The Targums provide more details than can be found in more modern forms of the Bible.

Many reports of the creation story, and especially the creation of the domed firmament of the Earth are used in this book. This gives you, the reader, the best, clearest, most specific, and fullest writing to decide what happened during the time of creation up to present times. You will find a list of the books used in the reference section at the end of this book.

And now, we are ready to explore the dome which we live under; this dome shaped firmament in which the sun, moon and stars revolve, while our Earth is still.



Preparing for the Trek

Before any physical trek, you prepare by warming up your body. Ours is a trek of the thinking kind, so we need to warm up our minds because we will be using our brains as we search for Truth about the dome we live under. We will explore beliefs from both the past and the present, searching for Truth about the world we live in and why we are here. Specifically, our quest will explore our cosmos and the dome we live under, so let's warm up.

When you begin a quest, it is good to have your goal or what you are seeking clearly in mind. If you are doing something physical, like playing a sport or entering in a race, you want to get to the end and win, or come as close as possible. Not only do you need to know the goal, you also need to know how to get there so you can prepare to the best of your ability. You need to know the rules and how to prepare.



In our case, we want to learn all we can about the firmament or dome of the Earth, so let's start by finding definitions. The dictionary says a dome is “a rounded vault, forming the roof of a building or structure.” The word

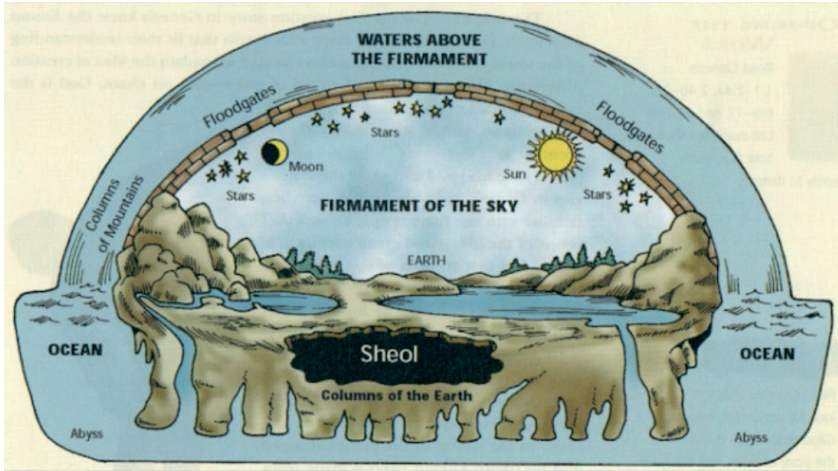
“dome” comes from the Latin word domus (house) and the Greek domos.



Firmament comes from the Latin word firmamentum. This in turn comes from the Latin root firmus, similar to "firm," and can be thought of as the structure above the Earth. In Biblical Hebrew, the word "firmament" is rāqîa' (רָקִיעַ). It comes from the word raqqā' (רָקַע), meaning "to beat or spread out thinly." It is thought of as being similar to the process of making a dish by hammering thin a lump of metal.

In the Old Testament, shamayim means both the sky and the dwelling place of God. The firmament means the sky that can be seen. It is a solid line, curving over the Earth. The visible sky appears as the color of blue from the heavenly ocean above it. Rain, snow, wind and hail are kept in storehouses outside the firmament, which has windows to allow them in. The waters for Noah's flood entered when the "windows of heaven" were opened.

So we see the firmament is pictured as a solid dome, like a bowl turned upside down to cover the Earth. The Heavens surround the outside of the dome and touch the farthest edges of the Earth. When people look up, they see the color blue. The blueness is from the heavenly oceans which are above and around the dome.



Then God said, “Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.” And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day. (Genesis 1:6-8)

The waters above our dome may be the source of our rain or they may also be stored in heavenly tanks along with the store rooms for wind, hail and snow. There are openings to let them come through to us.

Living under a dome is not a new idea. In fact, this a very old concept, and we will explore what the ancient people thought about the cosmos in a later chapter. But first we need to explore what the dome is really like.

We know our goal, and we are prepared. Now we finally begin our trek, visiting the ends of the Earth.

