

Flat Earth Theory Refuted

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It may be to your surprise, as it was to mine, that there are still people in our modern age who believe that the Earth is flat. In fact, The flat Earth theory has an increasingly large following in today's world where internet conspiracies override Logic, Holy Spirit Discernment and well documented science. There are over 5,000 people on Facebook who subscribe to the flat Earth pages! Some even claim that the Bible teaches that the Earth is flat and that the Earth does NOT move, while the Sun DOES move. Let's examine their claims and see what the Bible really says and how we can determine for ourselves that the Earth is actually a sphere/globe.

Claim: The United Nations map proves that the UN knows that the Earth is flat.





Fact: When I was in school, I remember seeing maps of the Earth on the classroom wall. We can see those in textbooks as well. If the map shows all the continents of the Earth, it does appear flat because there is no other way to show all continents of the Earth upon a globe when it is drawn as a map on flat paper. It's simply the only way to draw on paper. In NO way, shape or form does it prove a flat Earth.

Claim: Psalm 96:10 says the Earth does not move.

Fact: (Kjv) "Say among the heathen that the LORD reigneth: the **world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously**".

To try to claim that this verse says that the Earth does not move, is the most ridiculous assertion I have ever heard of! It's the perfect example of people taking words out of context. I don't understand how ANYONE can take this verse as meaning that the Earth doesn't move.

This verse is simply teaching that the LORD is in Control and is the ultimate Judge, King and Ruler over all creation and that the entire universe will never be destroyed by such things as the CERN super conducter/collider and nuclear war. The world is established and it shall never be totally destroyed. That's the context and the meaning. In NO way, shape or form does this verse teach that the Earth doesn't rotate or revolve around the sun. To say that it does is to take the words of the verse completely out of context. Just a simple reading is clear. But for those that must dig deeper, the Strongs concordance word for "move" here is H4131 - mowt, which means to totter, slip, shake, be overthrown, to dislodge, let fall, drop, decay, falling down, cast. It simply means that the world will not carelessly come to nought, but that GOD is in Control. This is NOT the Hebrew or Aramaic word for normal movement, revolve, revolving, rotating or spinning. Therefore it is NOT saying that the Earth does not make any movement.

Claim: Isaiah 38:8

Fact: "Behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun dial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward. So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down".

Flat Earth proponents take this verse very literally to mean that the Sun moves (as opposed to the Earth). As is the case of all the verses that they try to use, they take all the words 100% literally without any consideration of human eyesight, human perception, symbolism, expressions of speech, etc. This verse simply describes what was occurring in the eye of the beholder. To the human eye, to the eye of humans on Earth, the sun appeared to move. Notice that GOD did NOT say that HE would move the sun itself. GOD said that HE would move the shadow upon the sun dial. Then Isaiah said that the sun returned 10 degrees. In the eyes of man, the sun moved. But in the eyes of GOD, the sun did not move. It is a matter of perception. The Earth's rotation went backward in order for the sun to appear as going back down toward sunrise. Does this verse SAY that the Earth moved? No. But neither does it teach that the sun itself moves. It declares how it appeared in the eyes of humans. If you do not agree, I ask that you take this in sincere and intense fasting for as many days as you can possibly fast to ask GOD to give you some spiritual discernment and ability to understand Scripture.

Claim: Book of Enoch teaches flat Earth.

Fact: Just as in the case of true Scripture, I have yet to see a verse that is TRULY teaching that the Earth is flat and does not move. The only thing I have seen so far is a bunch of Scriptures and words taken out of context and out of it's true meaning. Nevertheless, the more important point that I must make about the book of Enoch claim is that every person who I have ever known who read the book of Enoch was very heavily demonic influenced. I have never seen any good fruit or good teaching or edification to come out of the book of Enoch. Although it is clear that there was at one time a good and true book of Enoch, the several versions that are floating around on the internet today are very corrupt versions that cannot be trusted. We do NOT have a true copy of the book of Enoch available to mankind today. I very seriously caution against reading ANY of it.

Claim: Matthew 4:8 How can the devil show Jesus the whole Earth from a high mountain in Jerusalem, if the Earth is a sphere/globe, they would not be able to see the other side of the Earth.

Fact: Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them".

What if we were to go to the highest mountain on Earth? Would we be able to see the entire Earth? Regardless of whether it is flat or a sphere, Would we be able to see the entire Earth? NO. Very clearly, no human is able to see the entire Earth from ANY point on Earth. Therefore what was happening in Matthew 4:8 was supernatural between GOD and the devil. They are Spirit and therefore are not limited to the natural physical shape and size of the Earth. There is no way that we can use this verse to mean that a flat shape of the Earth helped Jesus and the devil to see the entire Earth.

Claim: Joshua 10:13

Fact: "And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day".

Again, this is about the perception of mankind. This is NOT GOD speaking. It is the authors of the book of Jasher and the book of Joshua. Contrary to popular belief, NOT EVERY word written in the Bible is the Word of GOD. PROOF= Paul said that some of his words were his own statements

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and NOT GOD. 1 Cor. 7:6,10,12. Some words in the Bible are simply the descriptions of man's perception and not "thus saith The LORD". And NOT everything is to be taken so literally. If every word in the Bible is to be taken literally, then we must be preparing to see a 7 headed dinosaur with 10 crowns on his head to arise out of the Mediterranean Sea! We MUST understand that the Bible includes words of man's visual perception, even as John had perceived seeing a 7 headed monster.

Claim: Isaiah 38:8

Fact: "Behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun dial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward. So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down".

See Fact explanation above for Joshua 10:13.

Claim: Rev.1:7 How can everyone on a globe shaped Earth see Jesus when He returns?

Fact: "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen". 1. Consider who you are talking about! It's GOD! GOD is NOT limited by any shape of the Earth! 2. Consider Matthew 24:27 "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

Lightning does NOT always come out of the East. Think about how storms approach. You can see the lightning well before the actual storm arrives. You can see it getting closer and closer. So shall the coming of the Son of man be! HE will come out of the East and shine even unto to the West. The roundness of the sphere of the Earth will not hinder the brightness of His Coming! HE is NOT 6 foot tall. HE is the Creator of Heaven and Earth. HE is GOD. Every eyes shall see HIM. In no way can we say that Rev.1:7 limits GOD to a flat Earth!

Claim: Psalm 19 says the Sun moves as opposed to the Earth.

Fact: Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,

5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. 6 His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

Psalm 19 is a song written by man. It is NOT thus saith THE LORD. Again, This is the perception of a man as he is writing a song. The perception of his eyes is that the sun moves. It's not a statement of fact, but just perception.

Claim: Acts 13:47 Jer.10:13, 16:19, 25:31, 51:16, Micah 5:4, Zech.9:10 Isa.41:9, 43:6, 45:22, 52:10, Ends of the Earth

Fact: If you take "ends of the Earth" literally, it actually contradicts what the Flat Earth Theory people teach. They teach that the Earth is flat but round, as in the shape of a plate or a watch. But a round flat plate or watch has NO ends. The only way that we can take it literally is to proclaim the Earth is flat and square or rectangle shape. Yet that would contradict Scripture that says that the Earth is round. Therefore we must conclude that "ends of the Earth" is an expression of speech that refers to the 4 directions, north, south, east and west. There is no other possibility.

Claim: Isaiah 11:12 Rev. 7:11 Corners of the Earth

Fact: Again, "Corners" contradict the teaching of a flat round Earth. A flat round Earth cannot have literal corners. It's a figure of speech for north, south, west and east.

Claim: Job 38:6 Cornerstone

Fact: "Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof"

There is a cornerstone (Keystone) in the St.Louis Gateway Arch. Yet it is not flat. It is curved. The definition of cornerstone is an important quality or feature on which a particular thing depends or is based. Jesus is said to be the chief cornerstone. HE is not flat. A flatness is not required for there to be a cornerstone. Neither is a squareness required.

Leader of Flat Earthers:

One of the biggest leaders of the flat Earth movement is Eric Dubay. He is a pagan who teaches demonic yoga. Anyone with an ounce of Holy Spirit discernment who visits his website will be able to immediately discern evil. That should speak for itself. Who are you following?

Biblical Proof that the Earth is a Sphere/Globe or moves.

Isaiah 40:22 "It is he that sitteth upon the **circle of the earth**, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in".

"Circle" in this verse is Strong's H2329 - chuwg. The definition can include "circuit" which means that the Earth moves OR it can mean "sphere" as in a globe shape in contrast to being flat. There is NOTHING about this word that hints at a flatness or a stillness.

Common Sense that the Earth is a Sphere/Globe

These are ways that YOU can tell for yourself that the Earth is a sphere/globe without even having to trust well established science.

-Rainbow's are actually a full circle.

A rainbow is actually a 360 degree circle. That's fact and I have seen pictures of them taken from airplanes. From the ground, we can only see half at the most because the Earth is a sphere and half of the rainbow is below the sphere horizon. If the Earth was flat, we would be able to see the entire rainbow. Only with a sphere shape is it possible for half the rainbow to be blocked.

-We can SEE the shape of the moon and other planets.

We know they are sphere. We can see that with our own telescopes. If they are flat and round, they would not appear the same. If they are ALL sphere, then so is Earth. We can see the moon and planets turning with our own telescopes if we keep track on a hourly basis. We also have pictures of Earth from outer space. It's clearly a sphere in those pictures and videos. I don't think they have any reason to make up those videos.

-Look at the ocean. It looks round.

But look straight ahead AND look to the left and right as far as you can in the water. According to where you are located, one side or the other will appear closer. Therefore if it's round and flat, that edge is REAL and the edge is closer to the left or right or in front of you. You should be able to find that edge if you drive far enough to the left or right. Only with a sphere is all this possible and not ever find the edge. I've known airplane pilots. None of them have ever found the edge. If it's flat, it has an edge in every direction of the circle, yet no ship or plane can find it. Hmmm

-If it's flat, why is it hotter around the equator?

And why do we have winter when they have summer? Only with a tilted sphere is this possible. Also why does water and hurricanes turn opposite directions in the north & south hemispheres? Only possible with rotating sphere.

To be honest, I think that even having to write this article is insane. This is the most ridiculous thing I have ever had to write about.

SOME MORE INFORMATION ON THE SUBJECT

Top 10 ways to know the Earth is unequivocally, absolutely, positively, 100% not flat:

(1) The Moon

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Now that humanity knows quite positively that the Moon is not a piece of cheese or a playful god, the phenomena that accompany it (from its monthly cycles to lunar eclipses) are well-explained. It was quite a mystery to the ancient Greeks, though, and in their quest for knowledge, they came up with a few insightful observations that helped humanity figure out the shape of our planet.

Aristotle (who made quite a lot of observations about the spherical nature of the Earth) noticed that during lunar eclipses (when the Earth's orbit places it directly between the Sun and the Moon, creating a shadow in the process), the shadow on the Moon's surface is round. This shadow is the Earth's, and it's a great clue on the spherical shape of the Earth.

Since the earth is rotating (see the "<u>Foucault Pendulum</u>" experiment for a definite proof, if you are doubtful), the consistent oval-shadow it produces in each and every lunar eclipse proves that the earth is not only round but spherical – absolutely, utterly, beyond a shadow of a doubt not flat.

Refer to the following image from Wikipedia for more details on what happens during a lunar eclipse:



Click for the Original

(2) Ships and the Horizon

If you've been next to a port lately, or just strolled down a beach and stared off vacantly into the horizon, you might have, perhaps, noticed a very interesting phenomenon: approaching ships do not just "appear" out of the horizon (like they should have if the world was flat), but rather emerge from beneath the sea.

But – you say – ships do not submerge and rise up again as they approach our view (except in "Pirates of the Caribbean", but we are hereby assuming that was a fictitious movie). The reason ships appear as if they "emerge from the waves" is because the world is not flat: it's round.



Imagine an ant walking along the surface of an orange, into your field of view. If you look at the orange "head on", you will see the ant's body slowly rising up from the "horizon", because of the curvature of the Orange. If you would do that experiment with a long road, the effect would have changed: The ant would have slowly 'materialized' into view, depending on how sharp your vision is.

(3) Varying Star Constellations

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This observation was originally made by Aristotle (384-322 BCE), who declared the Earth was round judging from the different constellations one sees while moving away from the equator.



After returning from a trip to Egypt, Aristotle noted that "there are stars seen in Egypt and [...] Cyprus which are not seen in the northerly regions." This phenomenon can only be explained with a round surface, and Aristotle continued and claimed that the sphere of the Earth is "of no great size, for otherwise the effect of so slight a change of place would not be quickly apparent." (De caelo, 298a2-10)

The farther you go from the equator, the farther the 'known' constellations go towards the horizon, and are replaced by different stars. This would not have happened if the world was flat:



(4) Shadows and Sticks

If you stick a stick in the [sticky] ground, it will produce a shadow. The shadow moves as time passes (which is the principle for ancient <u>Shadow Clocks</u>). If the world had been flat, then two sticks in different locations would produce the same shadow:



But they don't. This is because the earth is round, and not flat:



Eratosthenes (276-194 BCE) used this principle to calculate the circumference of the Earth quite accurately. To see this demonstrated, refer to my experiment video about Eratosthenes and the circumference of the earth – "<u>The Earth's curvature is tasty!</u>".

(5) Seeing Farther from Higher

Standing in a flat plateau, you look ahead of you towards the horizon. You strain your eyes, then take out your favorite binoculars and stare through them, as far as your eyes (with the help of the binocular lenses) can see.

Then, you climb up the closest tree – the higher the better, just be careful not to drop those binoculars and break their lenses. You then look again, strain your eyes, stare through the binoculars out to the horizon.

The higher up you are the farther you will see. Usually, we tend to relate this to Earthly obstacles, like the fact we have houses or other trees obstructing our vision on the ground, and climbing upwards we have a clear view, but that's not the true reason. Even if you would have a completely clear plateau with no obstacles between you and the horizon, you would see much farther from greater height than you would on the ground.

This phenomena is caused by the curvature of the Earth as well, and would not happen if the Earth was flat:



(6) Ride a Plane

If you've ever taken a trip out of the country, specifically long-destination trips, you could notice two interesting facts about planes and the Earth:

• Planes can travel in a relatively straight line a very long time and not fall off any edges. They can also, theoretically (and some do, though with stops along the way), circle the earth.

Correction (Courtesy of Klaynos, from <u>scienceforums.net</u>): Apparently, planes can circle the Earth <u>without stopping</u>!

• If you look out the window on a trans-Atlantic flight, you can, most of the times, see the curvature of the earth in the horizon. The best view of the curvature used to be on the Concorde, but that plane's long gone. I can't wait seeing the pictures from the new plane by "<u>Virgin Galactic</u>" – the horizon should look absolutely curved, as it actually is from a distance.

(A picture of the curved horizon from a Concorde plane can be seen here).

(7) Look at Other Planets

The Earth is different from other planets, that much is true. After all, we have life, and we haven't found any other planets with life (yet). However, there are certain characteristics all planets have, and it will be quite logical to assume that if all planets behave a certain way, or show certain characteristics – specifically if those planets are in different places or were created under different circumstances – our planet is the same.

In other words: If so many planets that were created in different locations and under different circumstances show the same property, it's likely that our own planet has the same property as well. All of our observations show planets are spherical (and since we know how they're created, it's also obvious why they are taking this shape). Unless we have a very good reason to think otherwise (which we don't), our planet is very likely the same.

In 1610, Galileo Galilei observed the moons of Jupiter rotating around it (click here to see a <u>beautiful</u> <u>video reconstruction of his observations</u>). He described them as small planets orbiting a larger planet – a description (and observation) that was very difficult for the church to accept as it followed a geocentric model where everything was supposed to revolve around the Earth. This observation also showed that the planets (Jupiter, Neptune, and later Venus was observed too) are all spherical, and all orbit the sun.

A flat planet (ours or any other planet) would be such an incredible observation that it would pretty much go against everything we know about how planets form and behave. It would not only change everything we know about planet formation, but also about star formation (as our sun would have to behave quite differently to accustom a "flat earth" theory), what we know of speeds and movements in space (like planets orbits, and the effects of gravity, etc). In short, we don't just suspect that our planet is spherical. We know it.

(8) The Existence of Timezones

The time in New York, at the moment these words are written, is 12:00pm. The sun is in the middle of the sky (though it's hard to see with the current cloud coverage). In Beijing, where Michael Phelps is likely getting ready for yet another gold medal, it's 12:00am, midnight, and the sun is nowhere to be found.

In Adelaide, Australia, it is 1:30am. More than 13 hours ahead. There, the sunset is long gone – so much so, that it's soon going to rise up again in the beginning of a new day. Here's <u>a list showing what time it is</u> around the world when it is 12:00pm in New York city.



This can only be explained if the world is round, and rotating around its own axis. At a certain point when the sun is shining on one part of the Earth, the opposite side is dark, and vise versa. That allows for time differences and timezones, specifically ones that are larger than 12 hours.

Another point concerning timezones, the sun and flat/spherical Earth: If the sun was a "spotlight" (very directionally located so that light only shines on a specific location) and the world was flat, we would have seen the sun even if it didn't shine on top of us (as you can see in the drawing below). The same way you can see the light coming out of a spotlight on a stage in the theater, even though you – the crowd – are in the dark. The only way to create two distinctly separate timezones, where there is complete darkness in one while there's light in the other, is if the world is spherical.



(9) The Center of Gravity

There's an interesting fact about mass: it attracts things to it. The force of attraction (gravity) between two objects depends on their mass and the distance between them. Simply said, gravity will pull toward the center of mass of the objects. To find the center of mass, you have to examine the object.

Consider a sphere.

Since a sphere has a consistent shape, no matter where on it you stand, you have exactly the same amount of sphere under you. Imagine an ant (perhaps the same one from the previous point) walking around on a crystal ball. Assuming the crystal ball is polished, the ant's only indication of movement would be the fact it's moving its feet. The scenery (and shape of the surface) would not change at all.



Consider a flat plane.

The center of mass of a flat plane is in its center (more or less – if you want to be more accurate, feel free to do the entire [shriek] integration [shriek] process), and the force of gravity will pull a person toward the middle of the plain. That means that if you stand on the edge of the plane, gravity will be pulling you **toward the middle**, not straight down like you usually experience.

I am quite positive that even for Australians an apple falls downwards, but if you have your doubts, I urge you to try it out - just make sure it's nothing that can break or hurt you. Just in case gravity is consistent after all.



Further reading about the center of <u>mass and about distribution of mass can be found here</u>. And if you are brave enough to handle some equations (not involving integration), you can learn some more about <u>Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation</u>.

(10) Images from Space

In the past 60 years of the space exploration era of humanity's history, we've launched satellites, probes and people to space. Some of them got back, some of them still float through the solar system (and almost beyond it) and transmit amazing images over to our receivers on Earth.

Here's a list of some of the pictures we've seen from space throughout the years:

October 24, 1946: A group of scientists in the New Mexico desert saw the first grainy <u>photo of the</u> <u>Earth</u>. The photograph was taken from a height of 65 miles (104.6 kilometers) by a 35-millimeter motion picture camera riding on a V-2 missile.

August 14, 1959: First crude <u>photo</u> of the Earth from the Explorer VI satellite. The photo showed a sunlit area of the Pacific ocean and cloud coverage. It was taken from about 17,000 miles (27,350 kilometers) above the surface.

(Image Courtesy of the <u>NASA GRIN</u> Website)

June 5, 1966: Astronaut Eugene Cernan took <u>this amazing picture</u> of Gemini 9 and the Earth during his EVA (Extravehicular Activity). The spacecraft itself and Cernan's "umbilical" (the cord that keeps him connected to the spacecraft's systems) are visible on top of a beautiful background of the Earth. (*Image Courtesy of the <u>NASA GRIN</u> Website*)

August 23, 1966: First view of Earth from the Moon. This picture was taken by Lunar Orbiter I when the spacecraft was on its 16th orbit and was just about to pass behind the Moon. (*Image Courtesy of the <u>NASA</u> <u>GRIN</u> Website)*

December 29, 1966: A spectacular view of the rising Earth from the Moon, taken by the crew of Apollo 8 after coming out from the other side of the Moon, approximately 239,000 miles (384,000 kilometers) from Earth.

(Image Courtesy of the <u>NASA GRIN</u> Website)

December 1, 1968: <u>Photo of Earth</u> from Apollo 8. This photograph was taken by an 80-mm lense, at a point very close to the Moon.

(Image Courtesy of the <u>NASA GRIN</u> Website)

More pictures from the NASA Missions throughout the years can be found at <u>NASA GRIN</u> Website: <u>http://grin.hq.nasa.gov/index.html</u>

Brief List of Manned Missions to Space

In the past 60 years humanity's quest for Space has produced hundreds of pictures, videos and audio records from more than just the United States. Some of these countries used to be enemies. Some still are. The amount of proofs, from opposing countries and 'sides', for the non-flatness of the Earth, if nothing else, should cast serious doubt on any possibility for the existance of "Global Conspiracy". Here is an abbreviated list of some of the first missions to space:

- April 12, 1961 (USSR; Vostok-1): Yuri Gagarin, becomes first man in space.
- May 5, 1961 (USA; Mercury-3): <u>Alan Shepard</u> becomes first American in space.
- July 21, 1961 (USA; Mercury-4): <u>Gus Grissom</u> performs the second sub-orbital flight at an altitude of 126 miles (203 kilometers).
- August 6, 1961 (USSR; Vostok-2): <u>Gherman Titov</u> becomes the first man to spend an entire day in space.

- February 20, 1962 (USA; Mercury-6): John Glenn orbits the Earth at a distance of 100-162 miles (161-261 kilometers).
- May 24, 1962 (USA; Mercury-7): <u>Scott Carpenter</u> orbits the Earth three times.
- August 11, 1962 (USSR; Vostok-3): <u>Andrian Nikolayev</u> leads the first four-day flight, and first "group" flight with Vostok-4.
- August 12, 1962 (USSR; Vostok-4): <u>Pavel Popovich</u> mans the other half of the "group" flight with Vostok-4.
- October 3, 1962 (USA; Mercury-8): <u>Walter Schirra</u> orbits the Earth six times.
- May 15, 1963 (USA; Mercury-9): <u>Gordon Cooper</u> pilots the longest (and last) Mercury mission, lasting 34 hours in space.
- June 14, 1963 (USSR; Vostok-5): Valery Bykovsky is the first to stay 5 days in space.
- June 16, 1963 (USSR, Vostok-6): Valentina Tereshkova becomes the first woman in space, spending three days in orbit.

You can find a full list of the chronology of manned space missions at the <u>University Corporation for</u> <u>Atmospheric Research</u>.

More Methods Throughout History

- <u>Abu Rayhan Biruni</u> (sometimes known as "<u>The Father of Geodesy</u>"), has managed to calculate the circumference of the Earth using complex triangulation equations. I couldn't find the actual calculation, or the method, so I can't judge it this as a relatively easy "DIY" way to do it, but it's still worth mentioning. If anyone has any more information about the method used, do post in the comments.
- **Bedford Level Experiment**: At the Bedford river in Norfolk, England. The experiments were done initially in order to prove that the Earth is flat. Though the first results of this experiment seemed to agree with the flat-earth contention, later attempts to repeat this experiment agreed with the fact that the Earth is, in fact, spherical.
- A Bit of History: Neil Armstrong narrating <u>this video</u> of the Earth as viewed from the Apollo 11 Command Module on its way to the Moon.