



THE

UNSEEN

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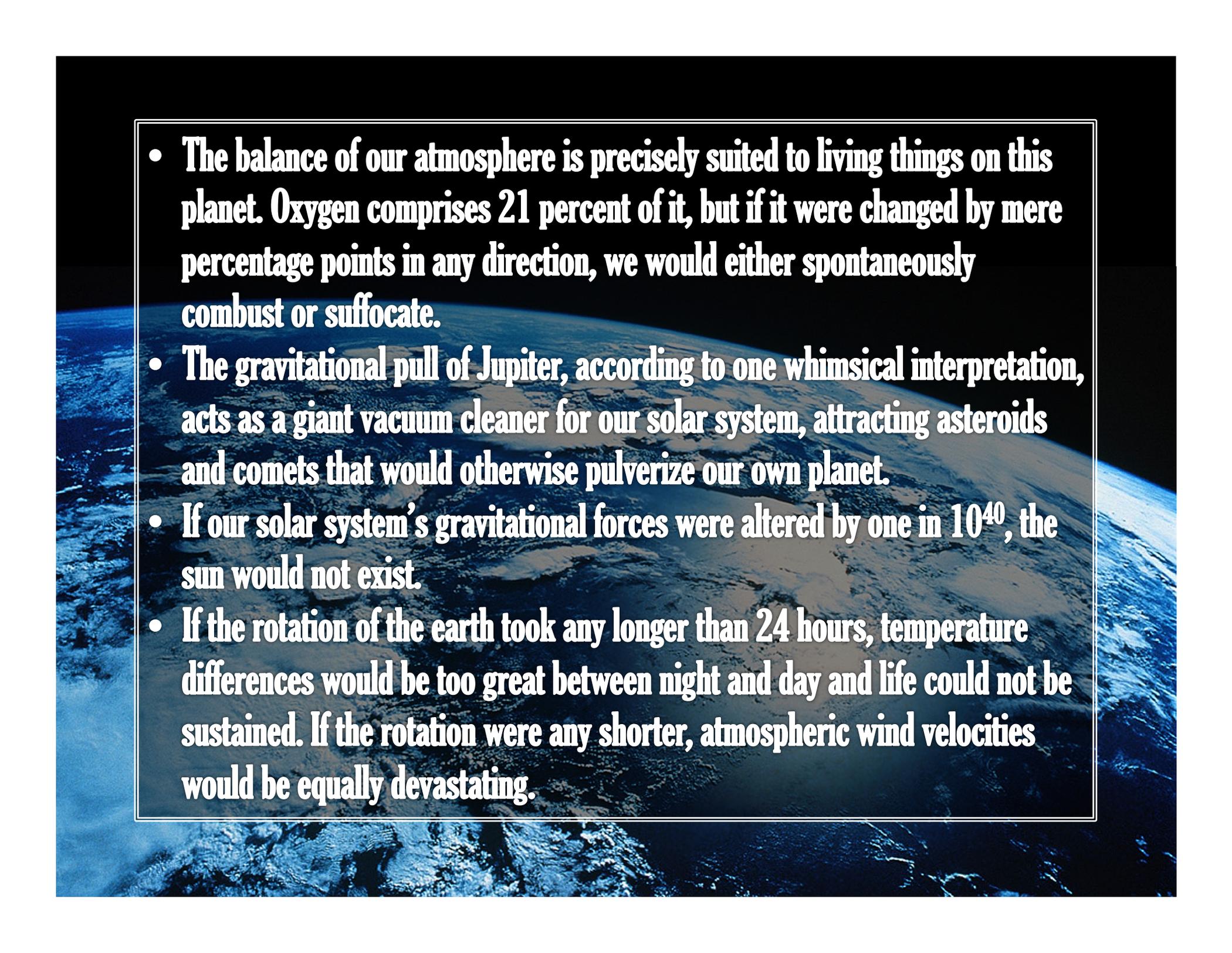
- CS Lewis once wrote that we believers should say, “Jesus Christ was raised from the dead,” in the same manner-of-fact way that we might say, “I saw a crocus yesterday.” Unbelievers always ask for the “seen” (evidence, a “sign”, etc.), while we recognize the “unseen” is as real as anything observable in the natural world:
- 2 Corinthians 4:18, 5:7, Hebrews 11:10, 11:26-27
- Of course, opening our eyes to unseen spiritual things can seem kind of esoteric to some. It is not feelings or mysteries we are looking for, but the real evidence of an unseen God working in and for His creation.

# WORSHIPING IN IGNORANCE





**SEEING GOD'S HANDIWORK  
IN AN ORDERLY CREATION**

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- **The balance of our atmosphere is precisely suited to living things on this planet. Oxygen comprises 21 percent of it, but if it were changed by mere percentage points in any direction, we would either spontaneously combust or suffocate.**
  - **The gravitational pull of Jupiter, according to one whimsical interpretation, acts as a giant vacuum cleaner for our solar system, attracting asteroids and comets that would otherwise pulverize our own planet.**
  - **If our solar system's gravitational forces were altered by one in  $10^{40}$ , the sun would not exist.**
  - **If the rotation of the earth took any longer than 24 hours, temperature differences would be too great between night and day and life could not be sustained. If the rotation were any shorter, atmospheric wind velocities would be equally devastating.**

# SEEING ANSWERED PRAYERS

- The unbeliever might not be impressed by this, but to the keen observer there are too many lessons and blessings to ignore a God who is actively answering prayers (Psalm 66:19-20, 65:2, Proverbs 15:8, Matthew 7:7-8).
- We do not consider it mere poetry or fluffy sentiment when James affirms the power of prayer (James 5:13ff).
- Prayers are not always answered when we *receive* something — more often, it is when we *learn* something (James 1:2-12, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10).

# SEEING THE EFFECT OF REBELLION

- **Social evolution (like its cousin biological evolution) is the idea that the strong overcome the weak. Justice and morality are immaterial, since they are merely ethical constructs. Therefore, if there is no god, then we should see nothing but strong, advantaged humans dominating weak, disadvantaged humans.**
- **Yet this is not actually the case! Notice Proverbs 13:15, Galatians 6:7-8, Proverbs 11:25-26, and Ecclesiastes 9:11.**
- **Why do we revel in the underdog, or feel a sense of vindication when justice is done?**



**“ONE SINNER DESTROYS  
MUCH GOOD” ECC. 9:18**

# SEEING THE GOSPEL CHANGE SOMEBODY

- **Nothing speaks to the movements of the unseen God more than the testimonies of reformed sinners! Some changes are so striking that even other Christians are shocked (Galatians 1:22-24)**
- **Remember Romans 12:2.**
- **As glorious as the “seen” is, the angels are more impressed by even one person who turns to the Lord (Luke 15:10).**
- **Everything we see is passing, fleeting (Romans 8:24-25). Those who live for this only have no reason or motivation to change. But those who seek the unseen, and are unashamed, have an eternal incentive...**



1 PETER 1:22-2:5