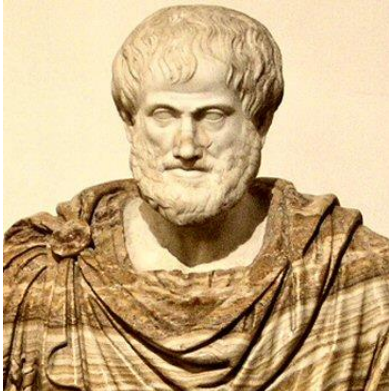


AIM: Before 1500, how did most scholars view the natural world?

DO NOW: Please write answers to the following questions in your binder.

Q: Why do people sometimes find it difficult to accept new ideas or new ways of thinking? What is risky about accepting new ideas? Are there also risks if you do not accept the ideas? Explain.

Q1: Aristotle was a Greek philosopher of the fourth century BCE. What did he believe was located at the center of the universe? What evidence did he use to support this belief?

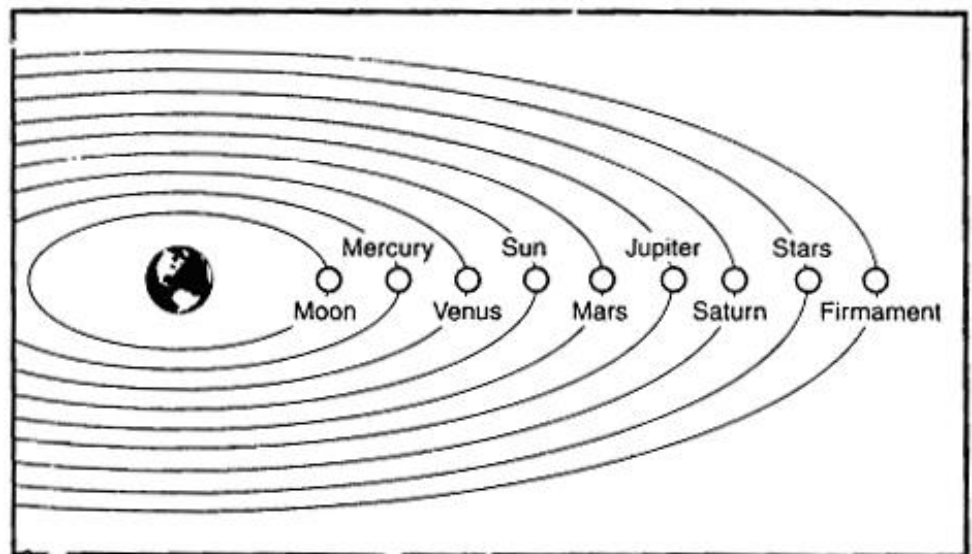


Document 1: Aristotle's Geocentric View

“That heavy bodies do move towards the centre of the earth is indicated by the fact that weights moving towards the earth do not move in parallel directions, but at similar angles so that they move to one centre, which is the centre of the earth. It is manifest, therefore, that the earth is at the centre and immovable... weights forcibly thrown plumb upwards move back again to the same place, even if the force exerted be sufficient to throw them an infinite distance. It is clear from these considerations that the earth neither moves nor lies away from the centre.

Q2: The Greek astronomer Ptolemy expanded Aristotle's theory in the second century CE. How was Ptolemy's model of the universe different from the one we use today? How was it similar?

Document 2: Ptolemy's View of the Universe (2nd century CE)



Claudius Ptolemy
(87-150)

Q3: *Why might this Bible passage have caused Church leaders to support the idea that the Earth is the center of the universe?*

Document 3:

“The Lord reigneth, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is established, that it cannot be moved.”

Q4: *Why might this Bible passage have caused Church leaders to support the idea that the Earth is the center of the universe and that the Sun revolves around it?*

Document 4:

“Then spoke Joshua to the Lord in the day when the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, ‘Sun, stand thou still upon Gideon and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.’

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 the heaven, and hastened not to go down about the whole day.”