

# Isaiah 40:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

## Analysis

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The invitation to observe the stars demonstrates God's creative power and sustaining providence. He not only created the heavenly host ('tzaba'—army, suggesting organized multitude) but calls them each by name and maintains them by His great strength ('ko'ach') and mighty power ('amitz'). Not one star fails to answer His call, showing His exhaustive sovereignty.

## Historical Context

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Against Babylonian astrology which worshiped celestial bodies as deities, Isaiah declares these are merely God's created servants, named and commanded by Him. The Creator surpasses His creation infinitely.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's intimate knowledge and control of the stars encourage you about His care for your details?
2. What does it mean that the God who names and sustains billions of stars knows and sustains you personally?

## Interlinear Text

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שָׁאוּ <b>Lift up</b> H5375	מָרֹם <b>on high</b> H4791	עֵינֶיךָ <b>your eyes</b> H5869	וְרָאוּ <b>and behold</b> H7200	מִי H4310	בָּרַךְ אֱלֹהִים <b>who hath created</b> H1254	אֵל H428
הַמֹּצֵא יָא <b>these things that bringeth out</b> H3318		בְּמִסְפָּר <b>by number</b> H4557	צָבָא <b>their host</b> H6635	לְכֻלָּם H3605	בְּשֵׁם <b>them all by names</b> H8034	
יִקְרָא <b>he calleth</b> H7121	בְּגִדְּתוֹ <b>by the greatness</b> H7230	אֲוִיָּה <b>of his might</b> H202	וְיָאֵלֶּכֶת <b>for that he is strong</b> H533	כֹּחַ <b>in power</b> H3581	אֵין <b>not one</b> H376	
לֹא H3808	נִפְתָּר <b>faileth</b> H5737					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 51:6** (Parallel theme): Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished.

**Isaiah 48:13** (Parallel theme): Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand hath spanned the heavens: when I call unto them, they stand up together.

**Isaiah 44:24** (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;

**Isaiah 45:7** (Creation): I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

**Isaiah 34:16** (Parallel theme): Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them.

**Isaiah 42:5** (Creation): Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:

**Psalms 19:1** (Parallel theme): The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

**Deuteronomy 4:19** (Parallel theme): And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the LORD thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.