

# Mark 13:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.

## Analysis

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**The stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken**—The Greek *asteres* (ἀστέρες, stars) falling and *dynameis* (δυνάμεις, powers/authorities) being shaken continues the cosmic imagery. In Jewish cosmology 'powers in heaven' could refer to angelic beings governing nations (Daniel 10:13, 20) or to the heavenly bodies themselves, which were sometimes associated with spiritual forces (Ephesians 6:12).

Jesus builds on Daniel 7:13-14, where the Son of Man receives eternal dominion. The shaking of celestial powers signifies the overthrow of all opposition to God's kingdom—both earthly and spiritual. Paul echoes this in Colossians 2:15, where Christ 'disarmed the rulers and authorities' (τας ἀρχας καὶ τας ἀρχαὶς). The verb *saleuthēsontai* (σαλευθήσονται, 'shall be shaken') appears in Hebrews 12:26-27, contrasting shakeable created things with the unshakeable kingdom believers receive.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern texts regularly used astronomical phenomena to describe political revolution. When Babylon fell to Persia (539 BC), contemporary texts described cosmic portents. Jesus's audience would understand this as covenant lawsuit language—God indicting unfaithful Israel through the prophet-like-Moses (Deuteronomy 18:15) before executing judgment through Roman armies.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. What 'powers' in your life seem unshakeable but will ultimately fall before Christ's authority?
2. How does the cosmic scope of Christ's victory encourage you when facing spiritual opposition?
3. Why is it significant that even heavenly powers tremble before the returning Son of Man?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ οἱ ἀστέρες τοῦ οὐρανοῖς ἔσονται ἐκπίπτοντες, καὶ  
And G3588 the stars G3588 heaven shall fall And G2532 G1601 G2532

αἱ δυνάμεις αἱ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς σαλευθήσονται  
G3588 the powers G3588 that are in G3588 heaven shall be shaken G1411 G1722 G3772 G4531

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 34:4** (Parallel theme): And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling fig from the fig tree.