

# Plato, The Student, & The Scientist:

*A Journey Through the Cosmos*

**ASTR 312**

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# ANCIENT GREECE





## *Clicker Question:*

Plato described the visible universe as:

- A - a giant glass dome encasing the Earth.
- B - just one of infinite universes.
- C - a living being with a soul.
- D - an illusion of time and space.

Answer: C - a living being with a soul.



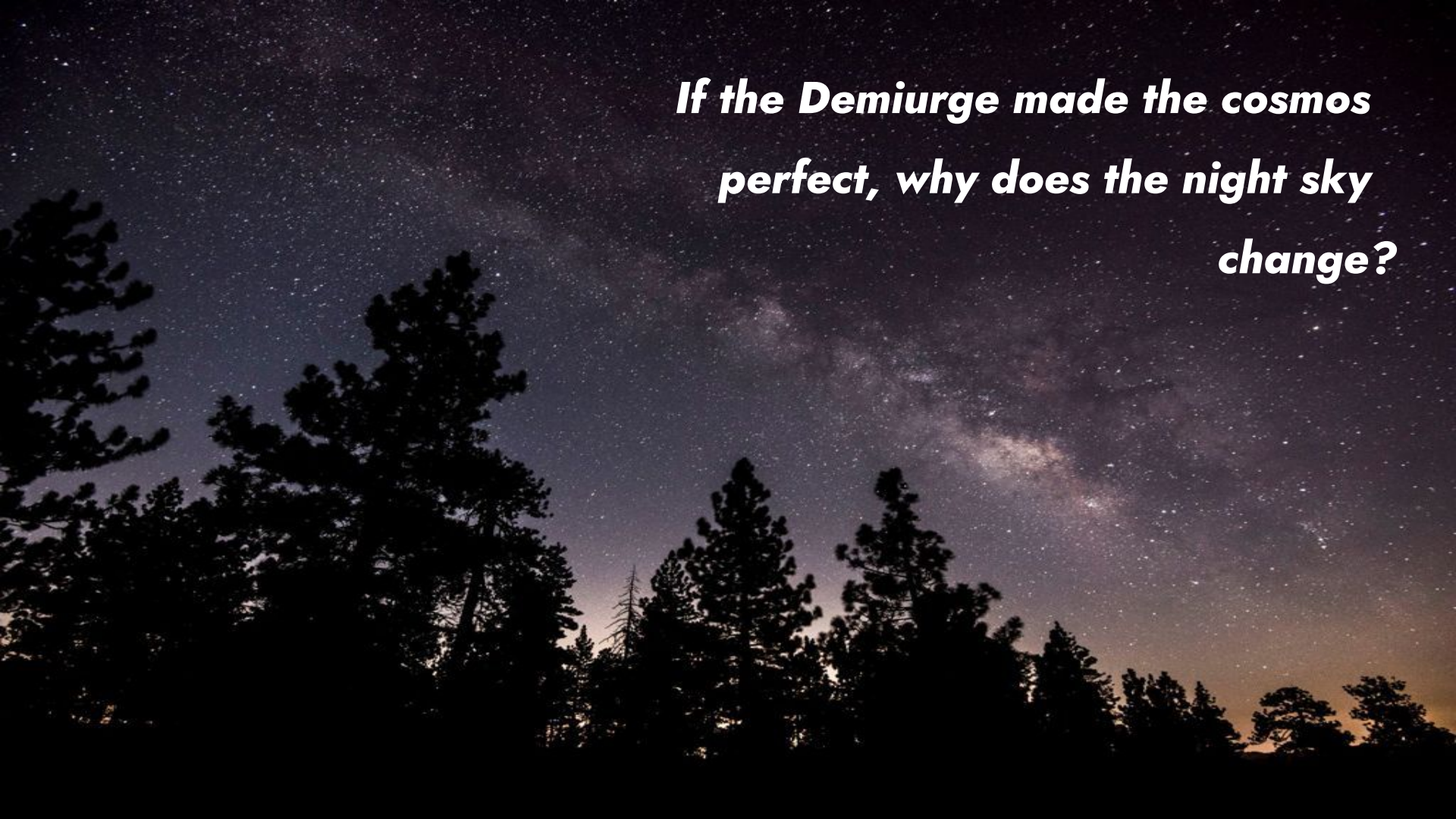


# THE DEMIURGE

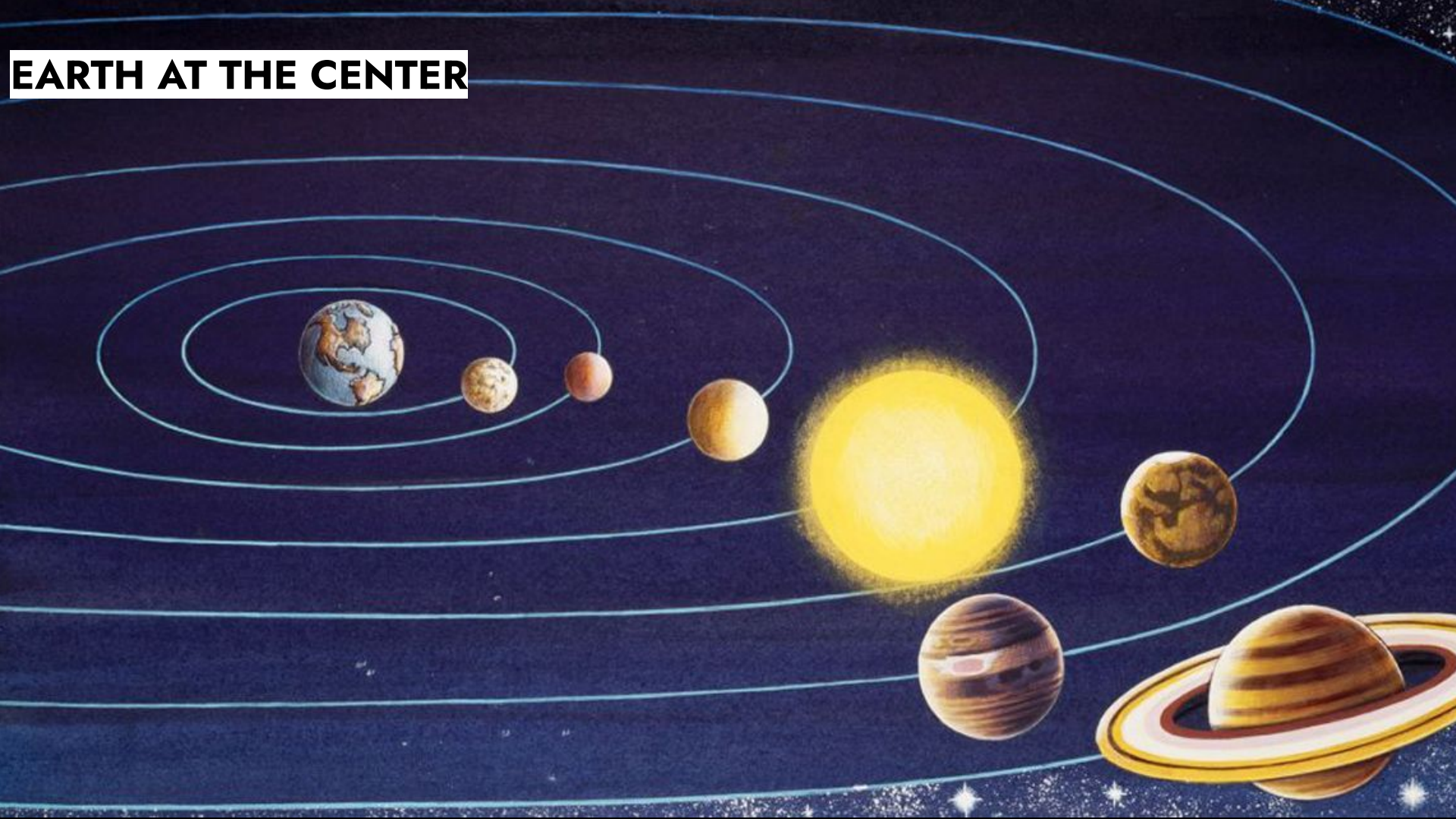




***If the Demiurge made the cosmos  
perfect, why does the night sky  
change?***



# EARTH AT THE CENTER



## *Clicker Question:*

Which element is associated with the heavens?

- A - Lightning
- B - Aether
- C - Spirit
- D - Darkness

**Answer: B & C - Aether/Spirit: synonymous.  
Also known as quintessence.**





# QUINTESSENCE

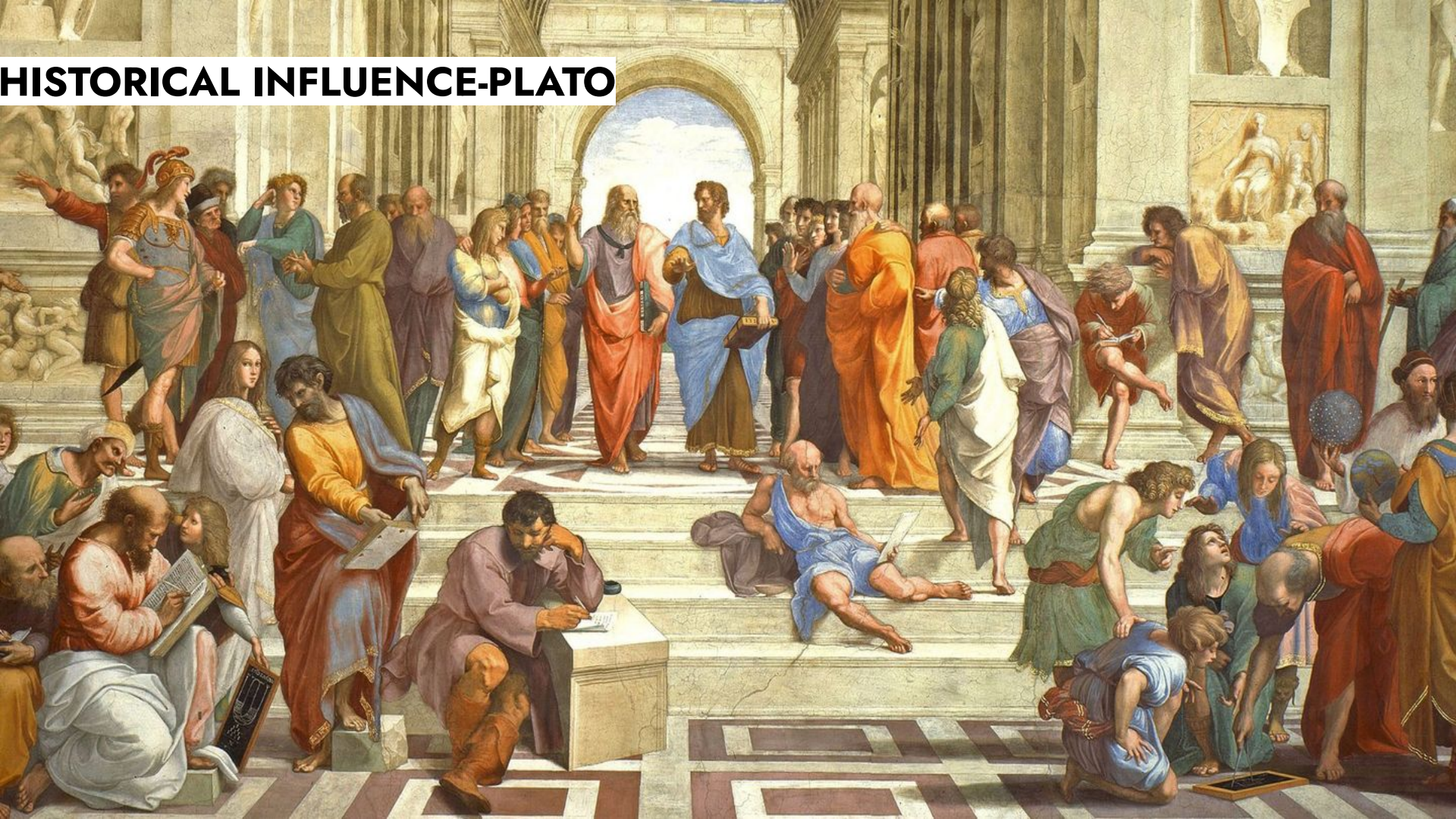


# RETROGRADE MOTION





# HISTORICAL INFLUENCE-PLATO



## *Clicker Question:*

Plato believed that the Earth is:

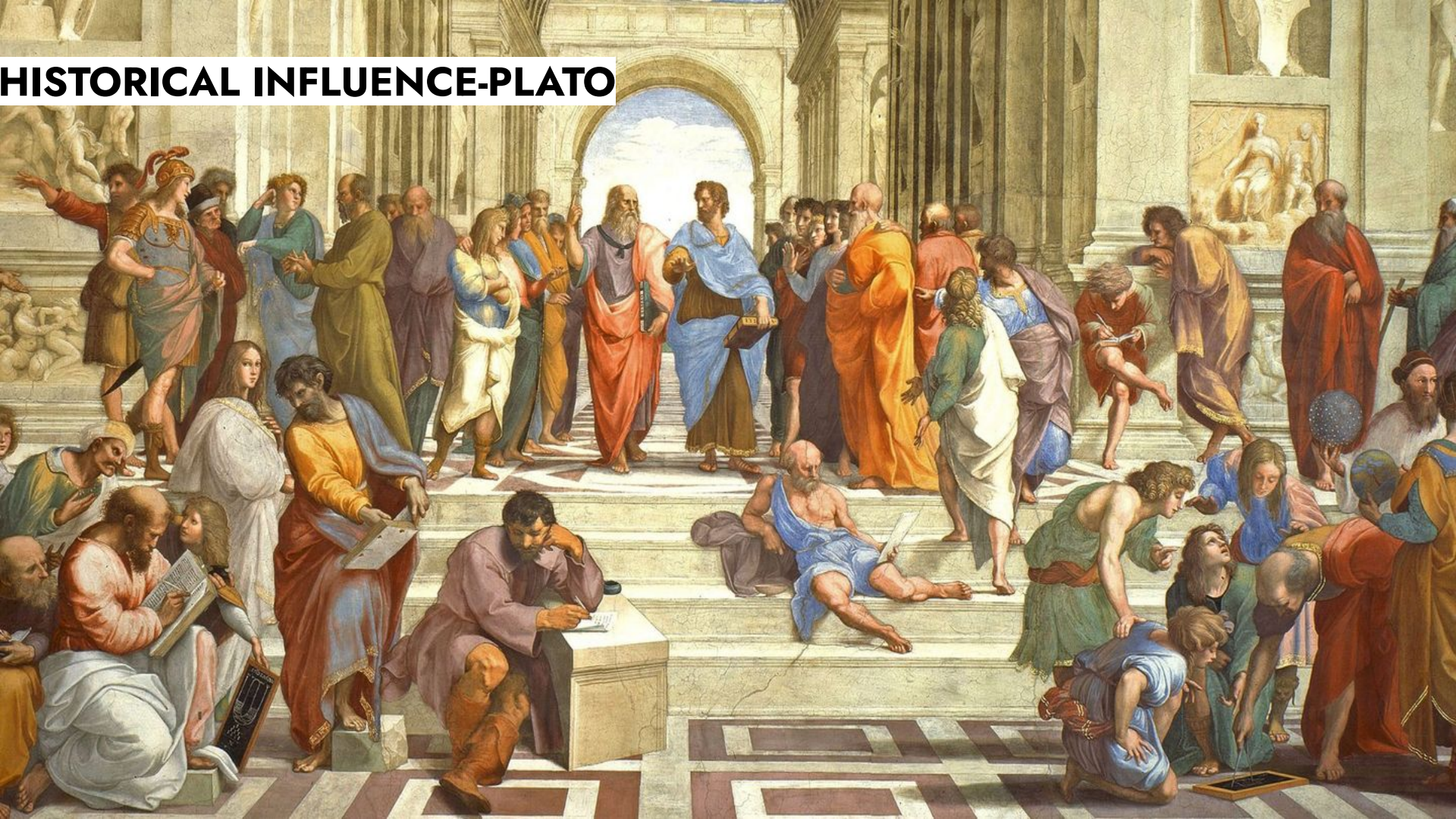
- A - rotating and orbiting the Sun.
- B - a flat and motionless island in space.
- C - completely motionless at the center of the universe.
- D - rotating at the center of the solar system.

Answer: C - completely motionless at the center of the universe.



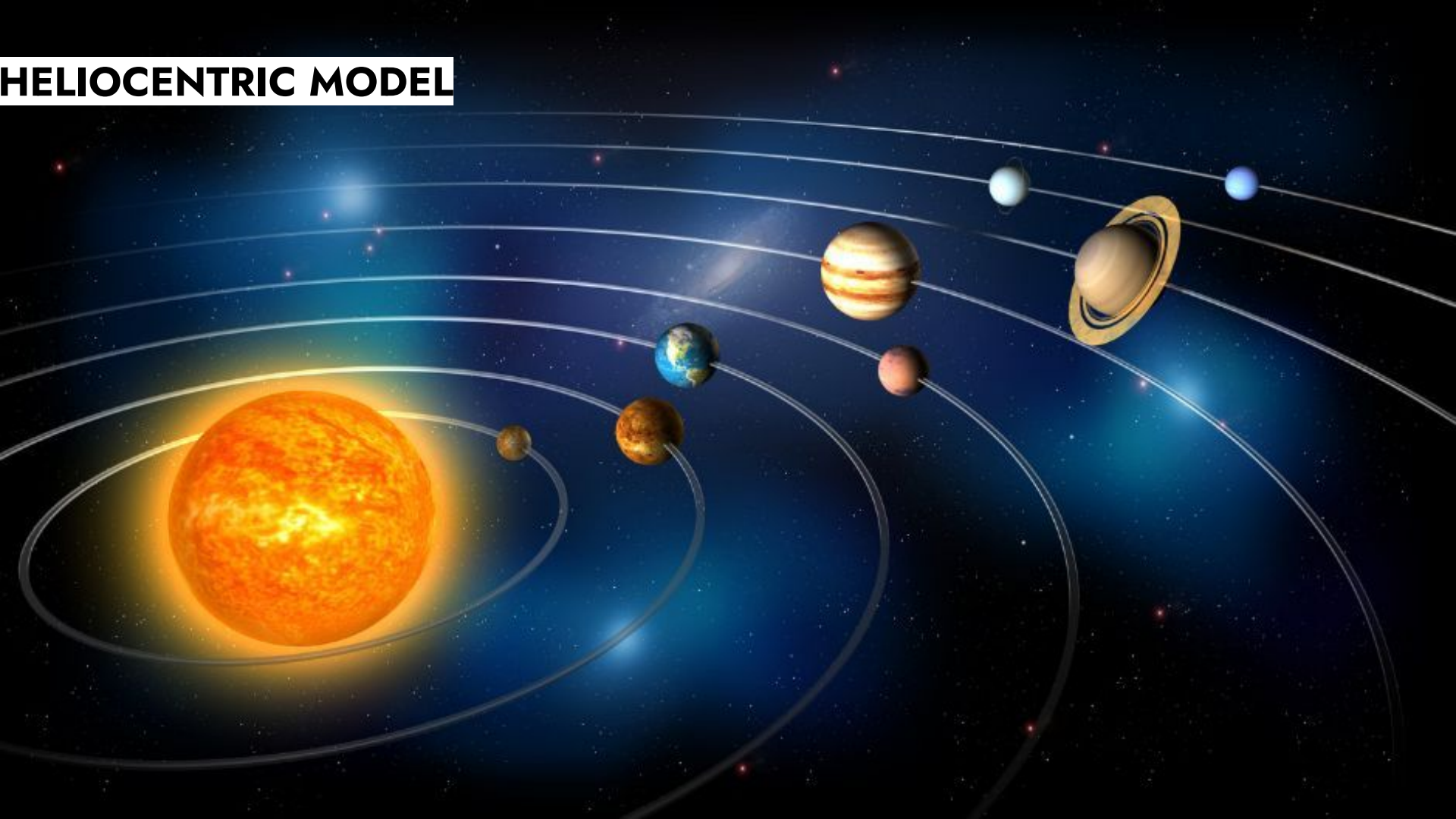


# HISTORICAL INFLUENCE-PLATO





# HELIOCENTRIC MODEL

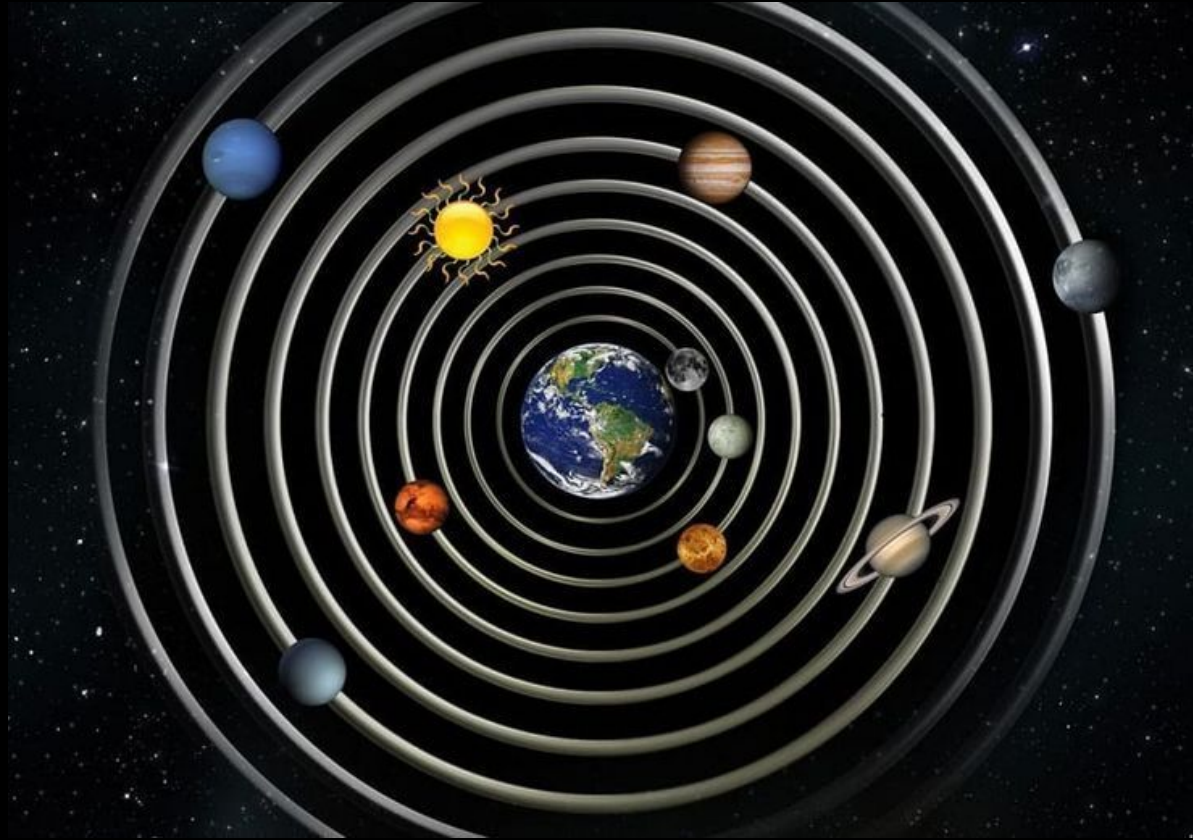




**NIGHT SKY**



*Imagine yourself as one of Plato's students. Given his geocentric model and his perspective regarding the cosmos, would you have been convinced that the Earth was the center of the universe, or not?*







**THANK YOU!**