

# Our Solar System

**1 Mercury** is the closest planet to the sun. It is scorching on the side facing the sun and frigid on the shaded side—840°F [450°C] at its hottest, and -275°F [-170°C] at its coldest. Also, Mercury has very little oxygen, which humans must have to live. God did **not** create Mercury for life.

**2 Venus** is sometimes called “earth’s twin” because it is almost the same size as earth. If you look into the night sky, Venus is one of the brightest objects. The air around the planet is thick and poisonous. It is so thick that its weight would crush any life on its surface. God did **not** create Venus for life.

**3 Earth** is the only planet where life has been found. Earth is just the right distance from the sun, not too hot or too cold. The blanket of air has just the right ingredients to support life. Also, earth is the only planet we know of that has liquid water. **God created earth special for life.**

**4 Mars** is called the red planet. The thin air around Mars does not adequately protect the planet from harsh temperatures, radiation, or meteors. That is one reason the surface of Mars is marked with deep craters. God did **not** create Mars for life.

**5 Jupiter** is the largest planet in our solar system, over 11 times bigger than the earth. Made mostly of gases, Jupiter has no solid surface. The gravity on Jupiter is over two times Earth’s gravity, which would crush life on this planet. One of Jupiter’s special features is a giant hurricane that is three times the size of Earth, called the Great Red Spot. God did **not** create Jupiter for life.

**6 Saturn** is another planet made mostly of gases. Most people recognize Saturn because of its rings. The seven primary rings are actually made of trillions of icy rocks. The temperature above Saturn’s clouds never rises above -285°F [-175°C]. God did **not** create Saturn for life.

**7 Uranus** is a ball of gas covered by blue-green clouds. These clouds are so thick that astronomers aren’t sure what the planet’s surface looks like. The air can spin very fast, with winds exceeding 450 mph [720 km/h]. God did **not** create Uranus for life.

**8 Neptune** is the farthest planet from the sun. Because of the types of gases on Neptune, we see it as a pale blue, like Uranus. Neptune has no solid surface, and its noxious atmosphere could not support life. God did **not** create Neptune for life.

All eight planets are beautiful and unique—no two are the same. Even though Earth is the only planet created for life, all planets were created to show us a little of **God’s glory.**

## Distance of planets from the sun



Jupiter

Saturn

Uranus

Neptune

