The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.¹

Thank you for your question and your deep thinking on these subjects. My son forwarded your question because I am also known for going deep into cognitive, but sometimes obscure, reasoning. Let me share three things that immediately came to mind as I read your question.

I loved your reference to God as The Painter and each of us as a mere pixel on the canvas, but I think you slightly missed a huge part by saying we are "knowing (at most) only the surrounding pixels". In reality God has taken these minuscule finite pixels and exposed them to a full revelation of his infinite self. We get to view the whole picture, beginning to end, Genesis to Revelation, penned by 40 authors in 66 books over 1,492 years (actually 1,588 years if you add 96 for the Apostle John to write. I remember 1,492 BC for mount Sinai because it rhymes with ocean-blue in Columbus' little poem; it was also 1492 AD when the Jews were expelled from Spain and fled to their promised land in a massive resettlement, but that's not my main point here). The revelation itself might be finite, but it is all that we need to explore or comprehend (Deut 29:29). Even those with a grander cognitive skill are stuck in this finiteness while comprehending an infinite God. But little pixels are indeed given a grand tour of the big picture. Praise his mighty name.

Second, I love your understanding that God created a finite universe subject to the laws of physics, and that "the third heaven being the Holy place of God and our eternal dwelling life serving our Creator", but I am afraid that the footstool thing of Isaiah 66:1 is more figurative than literal. Just the same it is likely possible, given another suitable reference point, that we might measure the size of the finite universe that he created. It is finite and it is bounded. "Science so called", holding to a theory of evolution, calls it infinite and unbounded. Those two presumptions change all the mathematics that deal with our understanding of deep space with the theories of relativity, and Albert Einstein's developments use the former and reject the latter. Armed with Albert's theories and a literal look at the Bible's

¹ The Holy Bible, the 19th Psalm.

creation account one can understand that the universe, contained in a finite firmament, is actually a spherical bubble surrounded by water wherein all the stars that God created are contained inside of that firmament (or bubble), and God occupies a third heaven above that watery layer. This is more thoroughly explored in my dissertation's chapter 8 "The Six Days" page 150-179². The premise that you bring up demonstrates an exceptional insight about how one might measure this finite created universe.

Third, I love your premise that we might measure space time distances with the Bible's revelation that, to God, 1,000 years is but a day, and one day as 1,000 years (Psalm 90:4, 2Peter 3:8). I write in my dissertation:

It is at first obvious that if light is coming from a star that is a hundred and sixty eight thousand light years away it might take a hundred and sixty eight thousand years to get here. This would only fail if light traveling through outer space does not follow the same rules as observed for light traveling through our inner space. The space continuum that God created is complex. The time continuum that God created is complex, and so is the matter continuum. We now understand that these three continuums have interconnections and interference patterns, and that the interference has a singularity at thee speed of light. Consequently time warps, for lack of a better word, as boundary conditions for each of the continuums are approached. Gravity warps time, moving through the space continuum warps time, and the time continuum itself is not as linear as we once supposed. All these obscure considerations need to be kept in perspective as we consider how fast does light really travel through outer space? A time warp is indeed a very realistic consideration³

In my dissertation I go on in this vein of time warps to capture the same consideration that you mentioned. Below is a favorite excerpt on

² Edward G. Rice, Dissertation, Louisiana Baptist Theological Seminary, January 2017, page 150-179 www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day_creation_dissertation.pdf, accessed 05/07/2020

³ Ibid, page 32.

3: A Time Warp Was Conceived by Albert Einstein

This is not a digression. The thesis was to demonstrate that God meant what he said about a six-day creation, in which he made the universe out of nothing. Now, it is pursued that he did it, just when he said he did it, 4,000 years before he sent his Only Begotten Son as the Messiah of Israel and Saviour of the world. Bear with this pursuit that space-time travel is not what "science-so-called" makes it out to be. Albert Einstein's theories of relativity insist that things are not as they appear. It will be well worth the effort to explore these theories in a little more depth.

Enter Albert Einstein's General Theory of Relativity. One hundred years ago Albert Einstein spent his days pondering and developing what he published as the general theory of relativity. This theory has been comprehended by few, maligned by more, and wholly ignored by those who believe the super nova in the Large Magellanic Cloud happened 168,000 years ago. The existence and study of black-holes resurrects Einstein's neglected theory, and thrusts it anew into the focus of the true scientist. His theories reveal that time does indeed warp in the outer edges of space.

Albert Einstein was enthralled with gravity. There had to be a reason why the force of gravity and the force required to overcome inertia were identical forces acting on a mass. His special theory of relativity demonstrated that the speed of light was constant even when there was relative motion between its source and its receptors. He thus demonstrated that time is relative, and not a constant as previously assumed. When time is not fixed, but relative to a location, relative to a motion, and relative to the gravity present, everything in Newtonian physics and

⁴ RMCF (Comment #25) (Some mention of the fact of time dilation, as demonstrated experimentally, is needed to support any argument that a 6000-year old universe is able to reveal the distant stars. I assume you are going to cover that in the next section on relativity, but it is left hanging here. At least make a transitional comment, please)

Euclidean geometry begins to take on a new and uncertain character. One cannot just ignore these new characteristics and pretend that light traveling from that Large Magellanic Cloud took 168,000 years to get here, three-dimensional space, gravity and mass all warp the speed of light, and thus time itself is not constant but experiences a warp in itself.

In the spring of 1998 Florida State University offered an astrophysics course that walked through a proof of Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity. That course demonstrated that his equations for relativity are valid and proven. The course material stated:

"After ten years of arduous intellectual searching, in 1915, Einstein succeeded, finally, in translating his profound physical intuitions about nature into a rigorous mathematical theory of free motion in curved space-times. ... yata yata yata...

Suffice it to say that the Florida State University course went on to publish and explore the details of the 1916 Schwarzchild Solution, which computed the space time interval between any two nearby points, given an assumed distribution of matter and energy. Most readers will delight to hear that this dissertation will not delve any deeper into the mathematical jargon than is necessary for an introductory coverage. The purpose in this examination is to demonstrate that Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity has not been fully absorbed by science-so-called. For "nearby points, and an assumed distribution of matter and energy," Schwarzchild has demonstrated this theory of relativity to be true. It is pertinent that for non-nearby points of deep space, a day might be as a thousand years, and a thousand years as a single day. Indeed for a Bible believer that is not only the likely result, it is a promise (2) Pet 3:8, Psalm90:4).⁵ (Be careful here; these verses have

^{5 2}Pet 3:8 "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering

been taken out of context by those wishing to make a day of creation a much longer period of time. These verses have also been taken out of context by those denying the thousand year reign of Christ recorded in Revelation 20. In their proper context they are referencing God's perspective about time not God's communications about time.) A more in-depth examination of Albert Einstein's theories can be found in a later chapter.

Given just that amount of time warp, i.e. a day being a thousand years, the light from the February 23rd 1987 super nova in the Large Magellanic Cloud, supposed 168,000 light years away, would reach us in only 168 days. The light from Galaxy Andromeda II, supposed 2.13 million light years away, would reach us in a mere 2,130 days, or just under 5 years and 9 months. Just the threshold of Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity, gives a Bible believer ample cause to completely trust what God has revealed about a six-day creation that happened only 6,0196 years ago. Previously we contrasted two means of calculating the age of the Earth, Option A, where evidence in our own solar system carries the weight, and Option B, where the speed of light from distant galaxies carries the weight. Option A is still the best choice. It is, however, the least chosen by mankind in general.

Albert Einstein's general theory of relativity, unites the speed of light, the tick of the clock, the relative velocities of space, and gravity's influence. All combine into one complex understanding. This is only the first step in realizing the possibility of great error in man's "scientific" age setting. Their age setting is based solely on the speed of light coming from distant galaxies. Einstein's theories make for a very significant first step in upsetting their apple-cart. These theories of relativity were completely side stepped by the atheistic evolutionist. Einstein's theories of special relativity, and general relativity have

to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." Ps 90:4 "For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night."

⁶ The 6,019, allows AD 2016 plus Ussher's 4004 years BC, less 1 year because there is no zero BC in the Julian Calendar.

realized the existence of massive time warps in the universe. The atheistic evolutionists took these realizations and explored every conceivable notion about time travel and reaching distant galaxies with their sci-fy space adventures, but they barely considered that such time warps might muck up their speed of light dependence in their Earth dating methods.

The universe's age of four billion to fifteen billion years is the "sacred cow" of the atheistic evolutionist. It helps them digest the extreme notion that breeding beagles could produce a Clydesdale horse! Or lizards, a bald eagle! Those huge numbers soothe their concept that everything happened by random chance. Even the spontaneous generation of life from two rocks in a primeval sea might therein be called a theory. Indeed an organized universe springing from random chances must needs have billions of years to account for the one in a billion chance of its truth. What is more disconcerting in all this is that in the fifty years of their control of our government schools, they have a majority of Americans believing their unsubstantiated notions.

The Bible believer is perfectly justified in holding to a 6,019 year old Earth. All the evidences in our solar system support such a supposition. The only thing that supports the atheistic evolutionist's supposition about millions and billions of years is the speed of light perceived as approaching us from distant galaxies. Such approaching light, supposed to be traveling at c = 299,792,458 m/s for the whole distance, in actuality goes through time warps explored via the general theory of relativity.⁸

⁷ Bill Browning, Rocky Mountain Creation Fellowship staff, personal correspondence, "The gravitational dilation of time effect of GR is well known. The real problem is the atheist assumption that the universe has no center and no edge, and uniform density, so the idea of a potential well where dilation might occur gets ground ruled out. The key characteristics of Humphrey's cosmology is the cosmos has a Center. And a non-uniform distribution of matter, which has been verified by astronomers. (galaxies in spherical shells whose diameters are quantized.)"

⁸ Edward G. Rice, Dissertation, page 47-51.

This is but an introduction to the answer for the profound question conjectured by an inquiring mind. I wish we could explore it further in dialog, and perhaps could. God bless you for asking.

Dr. Ed Rice, Pastor, GSBaptistChurch.com

Appendix

15 April 2020 Here is the text message I was referring to:

Sorry, i am in a chemistry class right now, all my college being virtual/online equals tons more work. Sooo, here is my overly explained question during a class where i know more than what the professor knows is...(to make the basis of my proposal) I am a painter, artist painter, i can send proof of my pieces, as it pertains to the basis of my question. I humbly and respectfully refer to God as The Painter. As The Painter, the canvas is physical matter and time itself. The left of the canvas being the creation (Genesis) and the right being the tribulation. A canvas is nothing but linear pixels of time and we are but a pixel on the canvas, knowing (at most) only the surrounding pixels, which would be our known history and perception of what may be our future as it coincides with scripture. That concept alone would put one in their humble place before God. As The Painter living in outside the canvas laws of time and heavens (3 heavens being our atmosphere, space time, and the third heaven being the Holy place of God and our eternal dwelling life serving our Creator) with that as the the factual illustration of the premise of my question, when God created earth and the heavens, He created the laws of physics that govern them. Meaning physics and science proves the reality and necessity of God NOT evolution. That being known, In 2nd peter, i believe it says that 1000 years to man is but one day to God, and Elsewhere the Holy Living Word says that Earth is God's footstool. Now, to be taken literal or not as the footstool i am uncertain. But could that mean that one could calculate (based on God's governing laws) relatively where (as in distance of space time) the eternity of heaven could be as it equates to the saved of earth? Or the distance (if taken literal) of earth to the throne and calculate the size of the throne based on the premise of earth being the footstool? Again, not at all important, more of a curiosity lol

It's like time dilation, which affects the speed at which time is experienced by one body relative to another. This rate is affected by velocity and gravity, each of which can cause the bending of spacetime that results in the discrepancy between objects. Both gravity and velocity slow one's time as they increase. If i stand on the side of the road cars fly by, but if i am in one of those cars traveling at the speed of the car it seems much slower....would that be more of what Scripture means when it says a day to God is a thousand years to mankind?.....i dont want to be caught in meaningless ponderings, i am simply an inquisitive mind lol

Dad, 15 April 2020

So as you can see, it a complex question. I figured if you had anything already written on it, I would send that his way. Also, below is a picture of the bunk bed, all finished. Except the ladder which I need to get.

Love, Shane

Shane 15 April 2020

O wow. I mean for the question and for the pictures. Note two things. First I started a letter with a first line, "Dear Inquisitive Mind..." and I can't wait to see what the next few lines will say, but it is right down my alley and will make Einstein smile. Next, ... yata yata yata Dad,