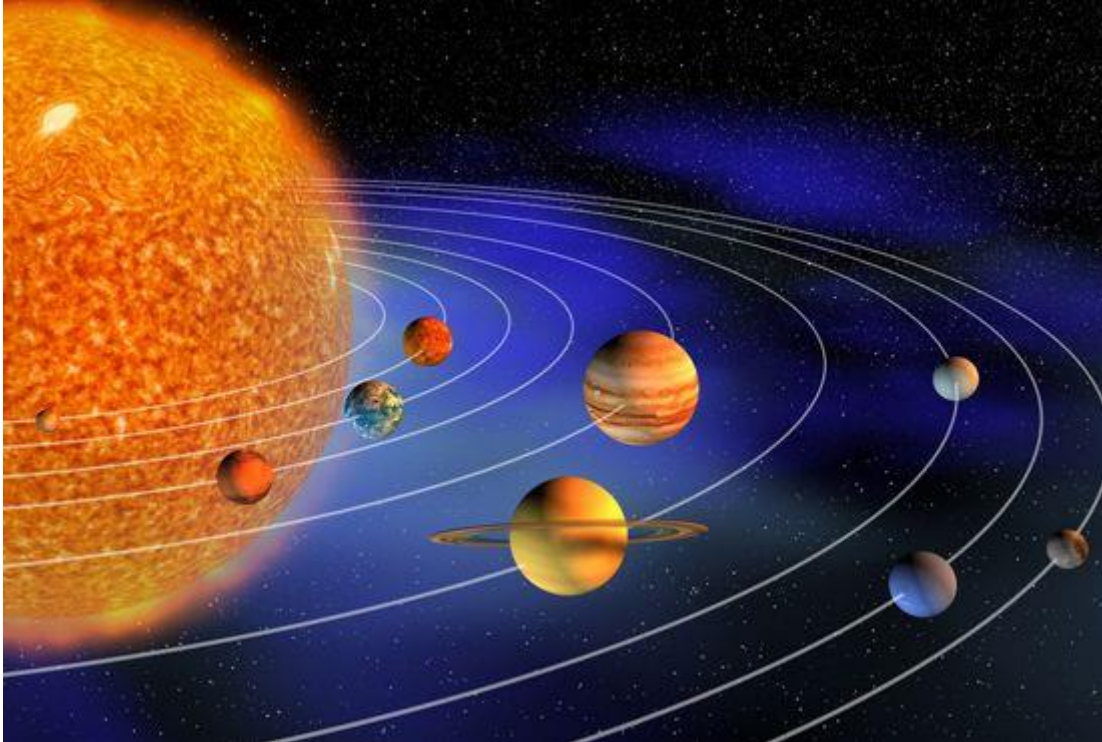


## The Orbiting Planets - Election and Free Will

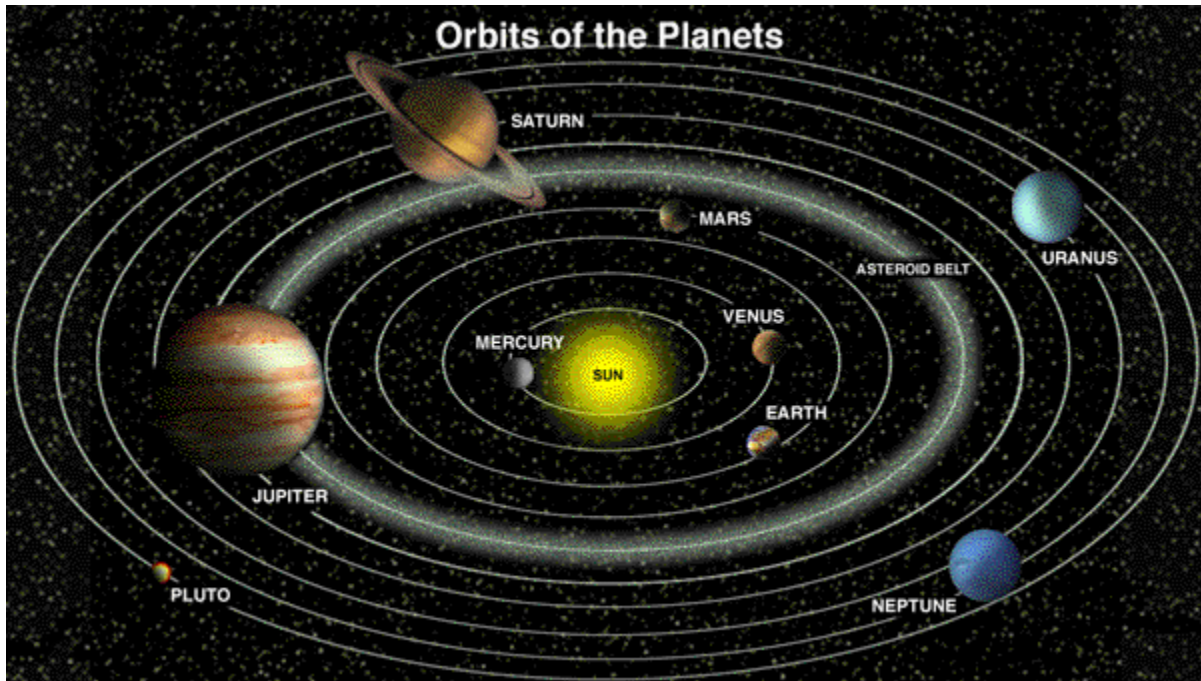
Pastor Kelly Sensenig



In astronomy there is something called a centripetal force, which is a force that has a tendency to pull all things together and down toward the center. At the same time there is a centrifugal force, a force that has the tendency to fling everything out to the circumference, which is outside the centrifugal. These two forces actually synchronize the orbiting of our planets around the sun and provide a perfect working balance in our solar system.

The centripetal force seeks to pull our planets to the sun but the centrifugal force seeks to fling our planets out into space. To us these are opposite forces but they work together to keep our solar system in a perfect working order and precision. Centripetal pulls in and centrifugal flings out. This is why our orbits follow a faithful pattern. The sun is the center and the planets are swinging in their orbits, centripetal pulling the planets in while centrifugal flinging our planets out. Once again, it's these

two opposite forces that keep all of our planets in perfect precision, balance, and order.



The same is true regarding the Biblical concepts of election and free will. They are like the centripetal and centrifugal forces which seem to oppose one another. However, these two Biblical truths are perfectly synchronized and work together to bring about God’s amazing, orchestrated plan of salvation. There is a Biblical balance between the centripetal (representing the sovereignty of God) and centrifugal (representing the free will of man). Without these two forces working harmoniously and synergistically together in our solar system, the planets would be in total disorder.

In a similar way, without the two Biblical teachings of God’s sovereignty and the free will of man operating together, the entire plan of salvation would be upended (Eph. 1:3-4, 11; 2 Tim. 1:9; 1 Pet. 1:1-2; Thess. 2:13; John 1:12; 3:16; 6:37; 2 Pet. 3:9; Rev. 22:17). Both work together in the orbit of God’s saving purpose. “O the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out (Romans 11:33).